Horticultural Society

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM AND THE GARDEN. THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

AND NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURE.

JOURNAL OF

VOLUME XXXVII.—NO. 30. BOSTON, SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1878. WHOLE NUMBER 1894.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

Official Organ of the N. E. Agricultural Society

ISSUED WEEKLY AT "PLOUGHMAN BUILDING,"

No. 43 Milk Street, (cor. Devonshire St.

(Opposite the New Post Office,)

BOSTON.

GEO. LOVEJOY, Proprietor & Publisher.

TERMS—$2.50 per annum in advance. $3.00 if not paid in advance. Single copies SIX CENTS.

☞ No paper discontinued except at the option of the publisher, until all arrearages are paid.

☞ The PLOUGHMAN offers great advantages to advertisers. Its circulation is large, and among the most active and intelligent portion of the community.

TRANSIENT ADVERTISEMENTS—One square, of eight lines, one insertion, $1.00; each subsequent insertion, 50 cts.

NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.

1. Any person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether it is taken from the office or not.

2. According to law, papers may be forwarded until an explicit order of discontinuance is received; and whether taken by the subscriber or not from the place where they are deposited, he is accountable for the pay until he orders a discontinuance and pays what is due.

☞ Postage on the PLOUGHMAN is 20 cents a year within the United States.

Editorial.

SOWING GRASS SEEDS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Please give, in this week's *Ploughman*, an article on sowing grass seed, and the kinds that should be sown together, and oblige a reader of your paper.

Respectfully, T. C. P.

Newburyport, Mass., April, 1878.

The best reply to this question is to refer you to the last Report of the Secretary of the Mass. State Board of Agriculture. The whole subject is treated at considerable length by Secretary Flint, the author of an elaborate treatise upon *Grasses and Forage Plants*, and considerable space is devoted to the time of sowing, the selections of seed, with illustrations of the prominent species. It is fuller in these respects than it would be possible to be in a column or two of the *Ploughman*. We presume you already have this valuable Report, as we have repeatedly urged our subscribers to procure it while it was on sale by the State. If you are so unfortunate as not to possess it, you may find a copy in your city Library. If not, we will undertake to procure and send you a copy on the receipt of the State price, 55 cents, and 21 cents for postage. On the selection of grass seed, Secretary Flint says:—"Now, what I wish to suggest is, to select in the first place, a much greater number of varieties. That, I think, is one of the great points which we should bear in mind. For mowing-lots, I would select grasses that blossom about the same time. I would sow the early grasses by themselves, and the late grasses by themselves. The common custom has been to sow only clover, Timothy, and red-top. Sometimes a farmer has sown with them a little orchard grass. But orchard-grass blossoms three or four weeks earlier than Timothy, and clover two or three weeks, at least, earlier than Timothy or red-top; so that when you sow clover, orchard grass, Timothy, and red-top together, your orchard-grass and clover are ready to cut before the Timothy and red-top will be headed out at all, to say nothing of their being in blossom. And many farmers will hesitate before putting in the scythe when these grasses are in that condition. They want to wait a little while; and, if they wait long enough for the red-top and Timothy to be ready to cut, the orchard-grass has become comparatively worthless; for it has gone to seed, and become hard and woody, and just about as indigestible as a chestnut rail. I do not believe there is any nutriment to be found in it when in that condition; and, if you should leave it to the judgment and taste of your cows, they would be of the same conclusion. They know what is good for them much better than we do.

We suppose a man should make up his mind that he will have all the early grasses together, as far as practicable, and all his late grasses together, then he can commence his haying in some cases, by the middle of June; and he will not be anxious about the condition of his later fields, because he knows that they will be improving for a few days longer. He is not, therefore, hurried. He has greater command of his labor, and can take it leisurely; whereas, if his grasses come into condition about the same time, he knows, that, before he can get through mowing some of his grasses will be entirely too ripe to be in their most nutritive and best condition; so that there are some advantages in making this division,—sowing the early grasses by themselves, and the late grasses by themselves. Orchard-grass is one of the earliest varieties. Then we have the June or Kentucky blue-grass, perennial rye-grass, not quite so early as orchard-grass, but considerably earlier than Timothy, the meadow-fescue, and perhaps the tall oat-grass. With these we can sow red and alsike clover advantageously. We ought to devote more attention to clover than we generally do. I know very well that most of our farmers raise it to some extent, perhaps, in some cases, to as great an extent as is advisable; but, taking the State over, I do not believe we fully appreciate the value of clover, or give sufficient attention to it. Clover is a very peculiar plant. It is a plant which really fertilises and improves the soil, rather than the reverse. You know that if corn, or any of our ordinary crops, is allowed to ripen its seed it is exhausting to the soil. It takes out a great many of the fertilizing elements from the soil to build up its structure; and the soil is, of course, exhausted in proportion to that extraction. Clover is an exception to other crops in that respect. It not only stores up in its roots a large amount of nitrogen, but if it is allowed to stand to be cut for hay, and especially if it be allowed to ripen its seed, it adds a vast amount of nitrogenous elements to the soil through the falling and the decay of its leaves. It is a wonderful exception, in that respect, to our cultivated grasses and other crops. The roots of clover extend down deep, as you know, and get a considerable portion of their sustenance from the subsoil. Then all these broad-leaved plants derive a large proportion of their nutriment from the atmosphere. These elements are stored up, partly in the stalk, partly in the root, and, to a much larger extent, in the soil itself, while the clover remains in it. A careful investigation has shown that an ordinary fair average acre of clover-roots will contain over fifty pounds of nitrogen or nitrogenous compounds; and the soil itself, after the clover-crop has been cut for hay, or allowed to ripen its seed, is filled with nitrogen and its compounds to a much greater extent than it would be by applying a full and complete dressing of nitrate of soda, or any other nitrogenous manure on the surface in the spring. It is a remarkable fact, that while clover takes out of the soil as much, perhaps, of some of the elements of fertility as our other crops (more than wheat or other cereals), it leaves in it a much larger proportion of nitrogen and nitrogenous elements than any other crop. It is a fact which a great many observing farmers in England and this country have noticed, that, after a crop of clover, a grain crop will grow better than it will after any other crop."

AN IMPORTANT COMPETITIVE TRIAL.

We are glad to note the fact that Mr. E. A. Samuels, of Waltham, invites the incubator makers throughout this country and Europe to participate in a grand competitive trial of their different machines. Such an event, if it can be brought about, will be of the greatest interest and value to poultry breeders and fanciers both at home and abroad, and it will undoubtedly attract great attention from the public generally.

Since the great competitive trial of harvesters at Paris and that of mowing machines at Amherst, Mass., there has been no such important public exhibition of the working of different machines in practical competition as this may be made. Mr. Samuels in his circular says:

"I make the following proposition to all patentees and manufacturers of incubators, both in this country and in Europe:

I will, at any time and place that can be agreed upon, have one of the Eclipse Incubators run in competition with all others that may be presented. The conditions are,—

(1) That each machine that is entered in competition shall be exactly similar to those of its makers, that are to be sold hereafter.

(2) That all incubators shall be managed by one person, who shall have no guide in running them but the regular directions which go out with the other machines of their kind to the public.

(3) That he shall have no bias or prejudice for or against either of the machines, and shall have had no previous experience with incubators whatever.

(4) That all the incubators shall be filled with eggs from the same lot, which shall be divided proportionately for each machine.

My reasons for naming these conditions are,—

(1) Some of the incubators sold in this country are so radically different from those that their makers [illegible] advertise for sale, that the parties who buy them can hardly reconcile the two machines. I want a 'fair field, and no favor.'

(2) It is important that the machines should be run by some one who is not familiar with incubators, for this would be the only fair test of their comparative practicability with the ordinary buyer. It is only honest that he should have nothing but the regular directions which accompany each machine sold, to guide him in running each competing incubator; and he should at no time during the competition have any intercourse whatever with either of the parties interested in the manufacture or sale of the different machines.

(3) He should be absolutely disinterested in the running of the machines, and should be under pay, to produce the best possible result with each, regardless of its merits or demerits.

Having all the incubators run thus, would be the fairest possible test of their relative practicability in the hands of amateurs.

(4) It is manifestly proper and fair that all the machines shall be filled from one lot of eggs in common; and this lot should be thoroughly mixed together, so that the eggs from each yard may be evenly divided among all the machines. It is well known that the fertility of eggs varies; and, while those of one yard may be very fertile, those of another may be very unfertile. If they are divided among all the machines so as to get a fair average, the chickens hatched will give the relative per cent of hatching capacity of each incubator.

I have heard of a party who exhibits incubators in full operation at fairs, hatching out chicks with good success. When I state that he keeps a number of sitting hens occupied incubating different lots so that they will hatch at the dates of certain fairs, and that he places their eggs in one of his incubators at hatching time, it will be seen that it would be necessary that all comers should 'fare and fare alike.'

With the above restrictions and conditions, a fair competition may be had between the many incubators now on the market.

Almost every city and large town has some incubator-maker who claims that his machine is 'the best and most perfect one in the world.' The only way to test this thing is to have such a competitive trial as I have proposed. If it can be held in Boston, I will provide quarters, free of expense to competitors, in which the machines may be kept during incubation; or I will have my incubator at any place the majority of contestants will decide upon, and pay my share of the expenses.

What I want to prove to the incubator-buying public is, which machine is the best and most reliable and practicable, and which will hatch the largest percentage of healthy chickens at smallest cost of running. The country is ready for a good and reliable incubator and such a trial as I here propose will decide which machine is the best.

To judge by the hundreds of letters that I have on file, from people who have bought the different incubators made in this country and in Europe, giving their various experiences, the machines are about all failures; in fact, some of them fraudulent ones. If the different incubators are all that their manufacturers claim that they are, there can be no reason why such a competitive trial as I have proposed should not be had. For my part, if I can be convinced that there is a machine in the world that can excel the 'Improved Eclipse,' I will at once stop the sale of it. But, as it is, *I do not believe there is one that can compare with it either in practicability or hatching capacity.*

It may be urged that the expense of entering into such a competition would be considerable; but it need not be. I will furnish a large room in Boston, or hall if necessary, free of expense to the other competitors; or I will go to any part of the country the others may select. The expense incurred will be vastly overmet by the *prestige* the successful incubator meets with.

As an advertisement alone, the success of the best incubator in such a trial would be worth thousands of dollars to its manufacturer.

If it is deemed best that the parties interested in each machine shall run them, I will yield.

My proposition, if accepted, that they may all be run by one person who shall be an amateur, would show conclusively the practicability of the different incubators in the hands of a novice."

☞ In growing cattle, the most popular breed ought to be that sort capable of producing both good beef and plenty of good rich milk, the more of both on the least feed, the better.

Questions & Answers.

QUINCE CUTTINGS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Will you or some one of the numerous correspondents, give in the next *Ploughman*, the time to cut and how to start quince cuttings, and oblige a constant reader?

Yours respectfully, H. C.

Heath, April 15, 1878.

Quinces are propagated either by cuttings or by layers. The cuttings should be taken off in November and buried in a pit below frost and planted out very early in spring in good mellow garden loam in rows three feet apart and six inches apart in the row. The cuttings should be eight or ten inches long and have two or three buds over the surface when planted. Cultivate and hoe through the summer and you will have some good stocks to plant in the fall.

The cuttings can also be taken off very early in spring, but are much more apt to fail, and taken as late as this date they would not be likely to do well; layers, however, can be made now with success; for this purpose cut off the old bushes near the surface of the soil and bank up the earth so as to cover them about four inches deep; they will throw out numerous sprouts which will root in the ground and can be separated from the stock either in November or April for planting; or if you do not wish to injure the old bushes and only wish a small increase, bend down some of the branches, cut them half off from the under side where they touch the ground, and pin them down with a forked stick and cover with three or four inches of earth, allowing the ends to rise out of the ground to grow.—[Ed.

HEN MANURE.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I have a quantity of hen manure, and would like to inquire through the columns of the *Ploughman* what is best to mix with it to make it a good and perfect fertilizer for corn, also for a general fertilizer. If you will answer through your columns you will oblige me and others of your readers. L.

Ashland, Mass., April 15th, 1878.

Hen manure is an excellent manure for corn without any addition, if fine enough to mix evenly with the soil; if not it should be composted with sifted coal ashes and sods or some absorbent and worked fine; if lumpy and it comes near the tender roots of corn or other crops it will injure the growth; the addition of wood ashes is desirable for potatoes or beets but for other general purposes hen manure is excellent in itself. The wood ashes should *not* be mixed with hen manure *before* application to the land as it will cause the loss of part of the ammonia.—[Ed.

COAL TAR AND OIL.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Will you please inform me through the columns of the *Ploughman* whether the application of coal tar, mixed with oil, to the trunks of apple trees which have been *scraped* smooth, is likely to injure the trees?

CONSTANT READER.

Boston April 16, 1878.

We suppose the tar and oil are applied to stop the canker worm grubs; it is desirable not to let it stay on the bark long but scrape it off or rub it off with dry earth. It is usual to wrap the trunks of the trees with tarred paper before applying the tar, and after the grubs are done running to remove the paper and clean off what has dripped down below it.—[Ed.

COWS HOLDING UP THEIR MILK.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

In the last *Ploughman* you published an article on "Cows Holding up their Milk." Is there any remedy for such a trouble? If so, will you please publish it for the benefit of a subscriber? I have a cow just come in, and she is troubling me in the matter allu led to above, and I know not what (if anything) can be done. M. S. U.

So. Dennis, April 22, 1878.

CHINESE PIGS—ALFALFA GRASS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I would like to get information through the *Ploughman* as to where the "Chinese pigs" (spoken of in your last number) can be obtained, and at what price. Also any information concerning "Alfalfa grass. Can it be grown here to good advantage? and where can seed be bought?

Yours truly, D. W. B.

Feeding Hills, Mass., April 15, 1878.

MASS. AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

CAUTION.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

The stubble on our wheat field of last year was burned off early this spring, and as the result, all the finer grasses, which were very abundant, are completely killed out to all appearances. The herdsgrass looks well, but not nearly so well as where the fire did not touch. To all appearances I should consider it a very poor practice to burn over newly seeded land at any time.

Yours very respectfully.

A. A. SOUTHWICK,
Farm Superintendant.

April 22, 1878.

GARGET.

Garget is more or less common in the spring of the year, and one of the most efficient remedies known is the garget root, or, (as it is sometimes known), scoke root. It grows wild in pastures and hedges. To give it, cut up or pound into small pieces, about half a teacupful of roots, and mix with bran or meal every day until a cure is effected. An exchange says that washes made by boiling the roots or leaves of the plants, and some smartweed, together, are very beneficial as local applications in garget. These very simple remedies, we think, will be found equal in efficacy to any, and have the advantage of cheapness and simplicity. Most farmers prefer to use agents they are familiar with in the treatment of diseases of animals, provided they are equally efficacious. It would be an excellent plan for farmers to dig up and dry a quantity of roots in the fall, for use during the winter, or early in spring. It is beneficial to give cattle a dose occasionally, mixed with their food.—*Western Rural.*

☞ Joseph Pfunstein, of Sterling, Ill., has a curious device in his yard for salting. It is an elevated circular platform, in the centre of which is fastened a round box holding a peck of salt; the box has a conical-shaped bottom, resting on a pivot, which revolves as the cows lick for the salt, as it gently oozes out.

☞ The better animals are fed, and the more comfortable they can be kept the more profitable they are, and all farmers work for profit.

Questions & Answers.

NUMBER OF EGGS HATCHED.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

In response to your suggestion I send you a few memoranda of hatches this season.

One clutch of twelve Brahma eggs hatched eight chickens. One of nine Brahmas and two Black Cochins hatched only the two Cochins. One clutch of two Brahmas and eleven Leghorns hatched only two Brahmas.

The Leghorn eggs were not impregnated, probably owing to some change in my matings. H.

Newtonville, Mass.

RESULT OF TEN SITTINGS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Below see result of ten sittings of eggs this season:

When Set.	*Eggs.*	*Chicks.*
Feb. 20	11	8
March 3	11	9
March 6	11	8
March 11	11	7
March 11	13	11
March 11	13	9
March 19	13	6
March 24	13	9
March 26	13	10
March 27	13	11
	122	88

I have given the number of chicks each hen hatched, as they varied somewhat. I do not see but the first eggs hatched as well in proportion to number as the last ones. I had seven eggs that had full grown chicks in them, but they for some reason did not pick through. Of the eighty-eight that I put out into yard seventy-nine are alive. As far as I have heard eggs have hatched very well this season. Yours &c., H. D. W.

East Lexington, April 19, 1878.

EGGS HATCHED.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I have had four hens come off this season; from two hens (they were the only ones not breaking any eggs) they brought off eight live chicks each, from eleven eggs. I have heard no such complaint as you speak of.

Respectfully, W. M. W.

Peabody, Mass., April 19, 1878.

NUMBER OF CHICKS HATCHED.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I have set 78 hen's eggs, and have only 27 chicks. Most all of the eggs had chicks started in them. The first two lots (26 eggs) hatched in February, did the best, hatching 13 chicks. Friendly yours, L. S. R.

East Marshfield, Mass., April 22, 1878.

EGGS HATCHED.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Seeing your request in the last *Ploughman* for its readers to send you the percentage of chickens hatched, I will give you my experience.

I have set four hens, the first one Feb. 4th, set eleven eggs, all hatched, and ten lived. The next one I set March 18th, thirteen eggs, seven hatched, three were dead in the shell, and three were unfertile. The next one I set March 23d, thirteen eggs, nine hatched, three were dead in the shell and one unfertile. The next one I set March 27, twelve eggs, all hatched and all are strong and healthy. Yours respectfully,

Holliston, April 20, 1878. J. H. B.

"HATCHING CHICKENS."

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

I notice in the *Ploughman* of this date an item headed "Hatching Chickens"—inviting correspondence.

March 18th I set twenty eggs covered by one Plymouth Rock and one Bantam; from the lot I received fifteen sound chicks; (three of which have been accidentally killed), four chicks died without breaking the shell and one egg not fertilized. March 21 I set twenty more eggs under one Plymouth Rock and one Bantam; from these I received twelve chicks (one egg being broken in nest, five unfertilized and two chicks that did not break the shell). For stock I used Plymouth Rock cock "Worono Co." (two years old) and four Plymouth Rock hens one year old. I will say that I have not had an unhealthy or "pimping" chick come out this spring. I have had but one chick die in the shell after breaking it.

Respectfully, D. D. G.

Westfield, Mass., April 20th, 1878.

CHICKENS HATCHED.

[By a Lady Correspondent.]

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Reading an inquiry in the *Ploughman* of this week, as the results of chickens hatched this season, I will answer, my little experience has been successful. I set one hen March 13; April 1, 19 days from setting, I had 13 chicks from 13 eggs; March 22, I set one hen on 11 eggs, and in 22 days from setting I had 9 chicks. I set one March 26, and in 23 days from setting I had 14 chicks from 15 eggs, 36 chicks from 39 eggs, not one egg without a chick; only 3, which did not have strength to get out of the shell. They are of a very common breed of hens, only 2 hens take the care of the 39; the first hen, which hatched 3 weeks to-day is now laying eggs.

Yours very respectfully, a constant reader of your valuable paper for 37 years.

MRS. J. F. G.

Haverhill, April 22, 1878.

MOLD.

The fungi that prey on the potato, etc., are spoken of as molds. They consist of a web of delicate threads penetrating that tissue of the plant on which they grow, and producing clusters of little jointed stalks bearing oval shaped fruit. A lovelier spectacle than these molds present under the microscope it is impossible to conceive. "No language can give an adequate idea of the forests of crystaline vegetation with their transparent trunks and wildering mazes of exquisite flowers and bead like fruit, growing in snowy purity on a fragment of a potato leaf or a small bit of decayed grape-skin. One can gaze at them unwearied for hours, marveling at the inexhaustible fullness of glory which God must possess when he can afford to lavish so much of it upon an object so mean and insignificant."

These blights and mildews are God's great army. "Individually weak and insignificant, by sheer force of untold numbers they are mightier for harm than earthquakes." One of the most amazing features about these "infinitely little" creatures is their power of reproduction. One kind has four modes of propagating its life. They are produced in countless myriads. On one individual mold upwards of ten millions have been counted. The atmosphere is charged to an inconceivable extent with them; the soil of every field is sown thick with them. Almost every grain of wheat, the finest sample, is found on examination by the microscope to have one or more adhering to it! One wonders in the face of facts such as these that our golden grain-fields wave with such healthful abundance. But God has mercifully provided that only in damp, ill drained soils, and in damp, warm seasons, can these hosts commit to any serious extent their devastations.—*Christian Standard.*

The Sheepfold.

LOOK TO THE LAMBS.

When they first make their appearance in the world lambs are very feeble animals but if they once get well started they are quite likely to live, and if properly cared for, do well. The first day or two of its life is a critical period with a lamb. Therefore it is important for sheep owners to look after their flocks when it is time for the ewes to bring forth their lambs. Unless they are deformed, or extremely feeble (which is seldom the case), nearly all lambs will live if they have a little care and attention. Probably a large proportion of them would live if let alone, but many would die. When the weather is cold they need special attention. A severe chill will be likely to be fatal unless prompt and proper remedial means are used. The owner should visit the sheep yard frequently during the time at which lambs are expected. Every evening he should attend to new comers, if there are any which need help. To give specific directions would require a great deal of space. Every owner of sheep should have a copy of "Randall's Practical Shepherd," a good book which contains a great deal of valuable information. Experience, too, is a very valuable aid, as the writer has proved, but there should be a certain degree of knowledge to go before the experience in order to prevent mistakes which would otherwise be very likely to occur. Good care is one of the essentials, and this every one can give.—*Dirigo Farmer.*

RULES FOR THE CARE OF SHEEP.

1. Keep sheep dry under foot with clean litter. This is more necessary than roofing them. Never let them stand or lie in the mud or snow. 2. If a ewe loses her lamb, milk her daily for a few days, and mix a little alum with her salt. 3. Never frighten sheep if possible to avoid it. 4. Separate all weak, thin or sick sheep in the fall from those that are strong, and give them special care. 5. If any sheep is hurt catch it at once, and wash the wound with a healing lotion. If a leg is broken, bind it with splinters tightly, loosening as the limb swells. 6. If a sheep is lame, examine its foot, clean out between the hoofs; if unsound apply tobacco, with blue vitrol boiled in a little water. 7. Shear at once any sheep commencing to shed its wool, unless the weather is too severe. Keep none but the best, and see that they are properly attended to.—*Ex.*

CONCERNING GEESE.

Geese are profitable birds for the poultryman who has ample space to give them in which they can satisfy their roaming instincts unrestrained by the necessary limitations of a city poultry yard.

The universal improvement which has resulted from the efforts of zealous fanciers in the past few years, has extended itself to all classes of feathered stock and included the various varieties of geese, of which the Embden and Toulouse are the best known. This improvement is shown not in an increased egg production, for no one has succeeded in changing the natural habit of the goose in this particular in as great a degree as has been done with fowls, but in the increased size of the mature birds.

Almost all varieties of geese are good sitters and need only the most ordinary precautions in setting them to ensure favorable results. After laying out their batch of about a dozen eggs, they feather their nest in a manner almost identical with that employed by their wild congeners, and at once commence the duties of incubation. After a few weeks trial the eggs may be given the sitter, and little care is needed for the next month, during which she will sit quietly, provided she is not too much annoyed and interfered with. At the end of a month the goslings will appear in good shape to begin life on their own account. For the first day or two they require only the same diet of boiled eggs and bread crumbs as chicks of any domestic fowl receive, with, perhaps, the addition of a little tender grass, cut fine, on the second day. In the course of a few days they will become strong enough to commence investigations of the near neighborhood, and may be transferred from the nest to a coop slatted up so that the old goose will be confined, while the openings between the slats will permit the goslings to pass in and out freely. When the goslings appear to have gained sufficient strength for longer expeditions, the mother may be given her liberty, when she will lead her flock all over the pastures and may be trusted to care for them unassisted by her owner. Geese left at large in this way will thrive and grow fat simply on what they can pick up suited to their taste on almost any uncultivated meadow. Grass and various wild plants furnish their staple food from April to November, at which time the young are ready for market. Geese frequently attain great age, and birds of forty are by no means unheard of, while a recent report mentions a venerable specimen of sixty years. A goose at least forty years old and still yearly laying her clutch of eggs and bringing forth a fine brood of goslings, is mentioned in a recent work, and youngsters of twenty are by no means rare.

Geese raising can hardly fail to be profitable to any one having the proper facilities for their culture, for their expenses for food are almost *nil*, while the profit from the birds weighing forty or fifty pounds to the pair is by no means inconsiderable, and live geese feathers will always be in demand.—*The Poultry World.*

SALSIFY.

Many are very decided in their praise of this vegetable, and we are among them. It is not cultivated enough, and generally where it is cultivated, too little care is given to the manner of cooking it. It needs about the same management as parsnips or carrots. Sow the seed an inch deep in drills a foot apart and thin out the plants to six inches apart when two or three inches high. They may be eaten in the fall or left in the ground until spring or taken out as needed. Respecting cooking—scrape them and throw at once in water to which a little vinegar has been added. Then boil in fresh water until it has been evaporated—add butter, pepper and salt, mash, form into patties and roll into cracker crumbs and fry the same as an oyster. We think those of our readers who will try this style of cooking salsify or the vegetable oyster, as it has been well named, will ever after find a little place in the garden for its cultivation.—*Rural New Yorker.*

SALT YOUR STOCK.—The *Rural World* says: If you want to keep hogs, horses, cattle and sheep healthy, give them salt regularly. There is no better vermifuge than salt. Much of the so-called hog cholera is due to intestinal worms. Plenty of salt would prevent the accumulation of these worms. All animals desire salt, showing that it is a want of their nature, and undoubtedly for wise purposes.

☞ Hen manure should never be mixed with lime or wood ashes. The effect is to produce rapid decomposition of the manure, and to drive off the ammonia.

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF VARIOUS BREEDS OF FOWLS.

BY F. J. KINNEY.

I have read with interest the discussions pending in the *Ploughman*, about the comparative value of various breeds of fowls, and in reply to *all*, and especially to H. D. W. in last week's *Ploughman*, I clip from my journal a leaf and send for publication.

I will merely say that since the time I tried this experiment, I have put Dark Brahmas and Partridge Cochins in trial rooms with Brown Leghorns, and I see but little difference in monthly statements from that given, the Dark Brahmas and Partridge Cochins giving about the same number of eggs, etc. as the Light Brahmas did in the statement below.

There seems to be considerable discussion just at present about the profit of various breeds of fowls. I don't propose to discuss the question, only to give a few facts and figures. I copied from my journal, showing what convinced me. In the fall of 1870 I put into my hen-house twenty-five Brown Leghorns, twenty-five Black Spanish and twenty-five Light Brahmas, as good stock as there was at that time. These fowls were selected for their known good qualities; all about the same age, *i. e.* four months old. They were put into pens or yards—six feet by eighteen, and good height, well lighted and ventilated. They went into their new quarters October 1st, and I opened an account with them. The Brown Leghorns commenced laying October 12, 1 egg; Oct. 13, 4 eggs; Oct. 14, 2 do; Oct. 15, 6 do; Oct. 16, 4 do; Oct. 17, 7 do; Oct. 18, 6 do; Oct. 19, 5 do; Oct. 20, 8 do; Oct. 21, 8 do; Oct. 22, 7 do; Oct. 23, 9 do; Oct. 24, 7 do; Oct. 25, 26 and 27, (cold stormy days), 3, 6 and 9 respectively: Oct. 28, 11: Oct. 29, 9: Oct. 30, 10: Oct. 31, 14. Weather warm and pleasant. Previous to to-day the three rooms had been one in the barn-yard alternate days. To-day I have decided to confine them to their rooms which are on the south side of my barn. I have a good board floor, as warm as good matched, inch boards can be made, and painted a black brown.

November first Brown Leghorns laid 10 eggs: Black Spanish, 1: Nov. 2, Leghorns 14, Spanish 2: Nov. 3, Leghorns 10, Spanish 1: Nov. 4, Leghorns 13, Spanish 2: Nov. 5, (cold and stormy day), Leghorns 9, Spanish 2: Nov. 6, Leghorns 15, Spanish 2: Nov. 7, Leghorns 12, Spanish 1: Nov. 8, Leghorns 10, Spanish 3: Nov. 9, Leghorns 16, Spanish 4, Brahmas 1: Nov. 10 Leghorns 11, Spanish 4: Nov. 11, Leghorns 15, Spanish 3, Brahmas 2: Nov. 12, Leghorns 12, Spanish 2, Brahmas 1: Nov. 13, Leghorns 11, Spanish 4, Brahmas 2: Nov. 14, Leghorns 9, Spanish 3, Brahmas 2: Nov. 15, Leghorns 18, Spanish 6, Brahmas 4: Nov. 16, Leghorns 10, Spanish 3, Brahmas 3: Nov. 17, Leghorns 17, Spanish 5, Brahmas 4: Nov. 18, Leghorns 11, Spanish 3, Brahmas 3: Nov. 19, Leghorns 18, Spanish 6, Brahmas 5: Nov. 20, (cold stormy days), Leghorns 10, Spanish 3, Brahmas 3: Nov. 21, (nice warm days for the time of the year), Leghorns 17, Spanish 4: Brahmas 4: Nov. 22, Leghorns 12, Spanish 3, Brahmas 2: Nov. 23, Leghorns 19, Spanish 6, Brahmas 6: Nov. 24, Leghorns 12, Spanish 4, Brahmas 5: Nov. 25, Leghorns 18, Spanish 6, Brahmas 5: Nov. 27, Leghorns 13, Spanish 5, Brahmas 5: Nov. 28, Leghorns 20, Spanish 7, Brahmas 7: Nov. 29, Leghorns 14, Spanish 5, Brahmas 6: Nov. 30, Leghorns 22, Spanish 8, Brahmas 7.

One Brahma on the nest to-night.

December 1, Leghorns 16, Spanish 5, Brahmas 6. Put the Brahma pullet on the roost last night, but it is on her nest again to-night, very feverish. Put her into a breaking-up coop made by flooring with round sticks one and a half inches through.

December 2, Leghorns 21, Spanish 8, Brahmas 7. Snowy and cold. The sun has not shown her face to-day.

Dec. 4, Leghorns 19. Spanish 4, Brahmas 7: Dec. 5, Leghorns 16, Spanish 6, Brahmas 9: Dec. 6, Leghorns 23, Spanish 8, Brahmas 6: Dec. 7: Leghorns 15, Spanish 9, Brahmas 9.

Another Brahma on the nest. I took out the first one from the breaking up coop, and put in this feverish patient.

Dec. 8, Leghorns 21, Spanish 6, Brahmas 5: Dec. 9, Leghorns 16, Spanish 10, Brahmas 8: Dec. 10, Leghorns 23, Spanish 6, Brahmas 8: Dec. 11, Leghorns 14, Spanish 11, Brahmas 10: Dec. 12 (cold and snowy to-day), Leghorns 22, Spanish 8, Brahmas 9: Dec. 13, Leghorns 15, Spanish 6, Brahmas 8: Dec. 14, Leghorns 20, Spanish 10, Brahmas 10: Dec. 15, Leghorns 14, Spanish 7, Brahmas 8: Dec. 16, Leghorns 21, Spanish 11, Brahmas 12.

Another feverish Brahma.

Dec. 17, Leghorns 12, Spanish 5, Brahmas 8: Dec 18, Leghorns 23 Spanish 12, Brahmas 10: Dec. 19, Leghorns 14, Spanish 7, Brahmas 6: Dec. 20, Leghorns 26, Spanish 10, Brahmas 8: Dec. 21, Leghorns 13, Spanish 6, Brahmas 4: Dec. 22, Leghorns 22, Spanish 9, Brahmas 10.

Two Brahmas on the sitting list to-night.

Dec. 23, Leghorns 16, Spanish 7, Brahmas 8; Dec. 24, Leghorns 15, Spanish 10, Brahmas 12; Dec. 25, Leghorns 23, Spanish 9, Brahmas 7; Dec. 26, Leghorns 17, Spanish 11, Brahmas 12; Dec. 27, Leghorns 20, Spanish 7, Brahmas 8; Dec. 28, Leghorns 13, Spanish 9, Brahmas 10.

Another Brahma on the sitting list.

Dec. 29, Leghorns 21, Spanish 6, Brahmas 6; Dec. 30, Leghorns 12, Spanish 4, Brahmas 7.

January 1, Leghorns 22, Spanish 10, Brahmas 12; Jan. 2, Leghorns 24, Spanish 6, Brahmas 7; Jan. 3, Leghorns 20, Spanish 11, Brahmas 11; Jan. 4, Leghorns 13, Spanish 5, Brahmas 8.

It has been cold and stormy two days.

Jan. 6, Leghorns 22, Spanish 3, Brahmas 10; Jan. 7, Leghorns 15, Spanish 4, Brahmas 7; Jan. 8, Leghorns 19, Spanish 2, Brahmas 9; Jan. 9, Leghorns 14, Spanish 4, Brahmas 6; Jan. 10, Leghorns 21, Spanish 2, Brahmas 11; Jan. 11, Leghorns 16, Spanish 3, Brahmas 7; Jan. 12, Leghorns 21, Spanish 1, Brahmas 10; Jan. 13, (warm and sun shining all day), Leghorns 17, Spanish 5, Brahmas 8; Jan. 14, Leghorns 19, Spanish 4, Brahmas 11.

Another Brahma on the sitting list.

Jan. 15, Leghorns 17, Spanish 6, Brahmas 8; Jan. 16, Leghorns 22, Spanish 5, Brahmas 12; Jan. 17, Leghorns 14, Spanish 7, Brahmas 9; Jan. 18, Leghorns 20, Spanish 5, Brahmas 10; Jan. 19, (cold and snowy all day,) Leghorns 15, Spanish 8, Brahmas 11; Jan. 20, Leghorns 19, Spanish 3, Brahmas 5; Jan. 21, Leghorns 16, Spanish 2, Brahmas 10.

Two Spanish hens froze their combs last night. Mercury at zero in the hen-house this morning; other hens all right, but I must put shutters on my windows to-day. Snow blows fearfully and will be colder to-night.

Jan. 22, Leghorns 20, Spanish 1, Brahmas 6; Jan. 23, Leghorns 15, Spanish 0, Brahmas 9.

It is a very cold time.

Jan. 24, Leghorns 16, Spanish 1, Brahmas 8; Jan. 25, Leghorns 14, Spanish 0, Brahmas 6; Jan. 26, Leghorns 19, Spanish 2, Brahmas 11; Jan. 27, Leghorns 13, Spanish 1, Brahmas 7.

Two more Brahmas on the sitting list to-night.

Jan. 28, Leghorns 20, Spanish 3, Brahmas 10.

I set one Brahma on seven of her own eggs. She was the first to lay, broke up easy, and has laid more and larger eggs than any other Brahma.

Jan. 29, Leghorns 12, Spanish 1, Brahmas 8; Jan. 30, Leghorns 20, Spanish 4, Brahmas 9; Jan. 31, Leghorns 13, Spanish 2, Brahmas 7.

Feb. 1, Leghorns 19, Spanish 5, Brahmas 10; Feb. 2, Leghorns 15, Spanish 1 Brahmas 6; Feb. 3, Leghorns 20, Spanish 4, Brahmas 9; Feb. 5, Leghorns 14, Spanish 5, Brahmas 7; Feb. 6, Leghorns 21, Spanish 6, Brahmas 11; Feb. 7, Leghorns 12, Spanish 8, Brahmas 9.

Three Brahmas on the sitting list to-night.

Feb. 8, Leghorns 20, Spanish 5, Brahmas 4; Feb 9, Leghorns 13, Spanish 8, Brahmas 8: Feb. 10, Leghorns 23, Spanish 4, Brahmas 5; Feb. 11, Leghorns 14, Spanish 6, Brahmas 8; Feb. 12, Leghorns 19, Spanish 3, Brahmas 6.

It has been cold and snowy two or three days.

Feb. 13, Leghorns 15, Spanish 2, Brahmas 10; Feb. 14, Leghorns 21, Spanish 3, Brahmas 6; Feb. 15, Leghorns 16, Spanish 1, Brahmas 11; Feb. 16, Leghorns 18, Spanish 4, Brahmas 8; Feb. 17, Leghorns 13, Spanish 9, Brahmas 12; Feb. 18, Leghorns 23, Spanish 5, Brahmas 9.

Two chicks out to-day.

Feb. 19, Leghorns 15, Spanish 7, Brahmas 10.

Seven more chicks out to-day; there are nine good ones. The hen has broken two eggs, and would soon kill all the chicks. She is too heavy. I shall raise them by hand, and try and break her up.

Feb. 20, Leghorns 20, Spanish 3, Brahmas 7; Feb. 21, Leghorns 12, Spanish 7, Brahmas 12; Feb. 22, Leghorns 21, Spanish 5, Brahmas 8: Feb. 23, Leghorns 14, Spanish 8, Brahmas 10: Feb 24, Leghorns 23, Spanish 10, Brahmas 13: Feb. 25, Leghorns 16, Spanish 8, Brahmas

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1878

The general expectation is that war is coming in Europe. The prolonged delay only serves to make peace more and more difficult.

A visible change of sentiment respecting the Bankrupt Law renders its repeal by Congress uncertain. It may be modified, but it is not certain to be abrogated.

The times are attracting the attention of people to farming, this spring, more than has been the case in many years. Public speakers help on the country tendency to the full extent of their influence.

The probability of the restoration of the Income Tax law has excited a wide discussion of its several provisions; and if it is passed, the probability is that it will be resisted to the highest court in the country.

All citizens are sincerely gratified with the decision of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association to hold an Exhibition in this city next autumn. It is expected to be the greatest affair of the kind yet seen.

There is not much question, as things now look, that we shall reach specie payments by January if Congress will not go into tinkering legislation. The country is steadily coming to the desired good of itself, and only asks to be let alone.

The double defalcation in Fall River has astonished the entire business community. The worthless paper is believed to be scattered widely through the State. Both Chace and Hathaway are in confinement, although it is as yet uncertain what penalty legally attaches to their great crimes.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Senate concurred in the House amendments to the bill in relation to the support of persons who become insane. A number of committee reports were made one favorable to the petition of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association for liberty to erect an exhibition building in this city. The taxation bill has been under discussion, and sundry amendments have been offered. The resolve in favor of street peddlers was again rejected. The Boston Police Commission bill was ordered to a third reading. So likewise was the Druggists' Liquor Bill. A bill creating a State Detective Force, to be composed of not more than thirty members, was substituted for the House bill. The bill was engrossed exempting from taxation deposits in savings banks invested in United States securities. Also a bill providing for the recovery of lands unlawfully held after the foreclosure of mortgages. The insurance bill was debated in the House, but action was deferred. A number of reports was presented. The motion to reconsider the vote by which the House rejected the bill relative to the taxation of deposits in savings banks, was debated and lost. The dog tax was debated and deferred for farther discussion. The two dollar tax was voted for female dogs. The bill was engrossed confirming the location of the Troy and Greenfield Railroad in Franklin County.

CONGRESS.

The Senate has passed the bill extending the time for the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Also the bill prohibiting the further coinage of silver twenty cent pieces. The Gen. Shields pension matter was referred to the Committee on Pensions. The House passed the River and Harbor Appropriation Bill, which appropriates seven and a half million dollars. Senator Blaine has introduced a resolution declaring any change in the tariff inopportune at the present time. The Ways and Means Committee reported an Income Tax bill to the House, laying a tax of two per centum on all incomes exceeding two thousand dollars. An attempt failed to suspend the rules in order to pass upon a bill to reissue fractional currency and small notes. The House Banking and Currency Committee follows up Secretary Sherman in his dealings with the syndicate respecting the sale of fifty millions of bonds as closely as it can. The repeal of the Bankrupt Law is not regarded as certain in the House. But little progress in public business has been made during the week.

EARLY SPRING.

The new season, which we all agree to call Spring, began early this year, coming in with all the symptoms of genuine forwardness. It has moved, thus far, steadily along its chosen pathway, until at the present time it has reached a point from which it cannot retrograde. The birds seemed to return unusually early, which tended to confirm the growing belief in an advanced season. The accounts from the wheat growing districts of the West showed that the winter grain had come forward to stay, and that was accepted as a favorable indication. April has been more capricious in her conduct than even March was, but as a whole she has performed her part well in bringing up the reserve resources of the season and keeping them steadily in line. So that, as May is about to be ushered in, the scene that spreads out is one variegated with promise, and holding forth unusual inducements to the husbandman.

There is work ahead, as well as play, for the most ardent admirer of Spring. It ushers in the agricultural year. The farmer contemplates his several fields anew, reviews the map of the year's work which he has thoughtfully sketched at the fireside in winter, and bestirs himself to set the machinery of his work in motion. The stocks, the increase in the pens, the sheds and barns and yards, the casts and ploughs and farm implements, the tools and all other belongings of his calling out-of-doors are every one the object of his attention now, that each may fall into its place in the economy of his industrial operations. The farmstead is fast awakening from its long slumber of Winter and taking on the life of Spring. All things are becoming new again. The grass is growing thick and dark green. The leaves are unfolding on the boughs. The waters sparkle in the clear light with a look of gladness. The world everywhere rejoices in Spring.

THE RESUMPTION PROSPECT.

The contract entered into with the Syndicate by Secretary Sherman having been sharply called in question by the House Committee on Banking and Currency, the Secretary has transmitted a copy of it to the Committee, with suitable explanations. It shows that the Syndicate agrees to purchase 4 1-2 per cent. bonds, to be divided among the several firms composing the Syndicate, in various sums amounting to $10,000,000. The bonds are to be sold for resumption purposes only. The parties purchasing have the exclusive right to subscribe for the remainder of the $50,000,000, but the amount so subscribed is not to be less than $5,000,000 for each and every month. The Secretary is not to sell in the meantime any other bonds than such as may have to be sold to pay the Halifax and Geneva awards and the 6 per cent. consols of the United States, and those only for sinking fund purposes.

The Syndicate is to pay for the bonds at par and 1 1-2 per cent. premium, and interest accrued. It is also allowed a commission of 1 1-2 per cent. on all bonds taken, and assumes to pay all expenses. This plainly gives the Syndicate a monopoly of the sale of bonds, except for resumption purposes. There is more or less criticism indulged in concerning this contract, but it is largely attributed to hostility to resumption itself. The general feeling appears to be that so long as he has not transcended his powers nor abused his discretion, the Secretary may safely be left to work his way out to resumption by January next, which he continually assures the country he will reach by the time indicated. The prospect is that we shall practically have resumption months before.

PROSPECT OF WAR.

England is steadily arming, which makes it still more difficult to treat for peace, while Russia is filled with resentment and determination. Germany has submitted the proposition to both powers that they should simultaneously withdraw their forces from before Constantinople, and at one time it looked as if it were going to be mutually accepted; but to-day an understanding of that sort is as far off as ever. There is the worst kind of blood both in St. Petersburg and London. It is useless to call the extended military preparations of England simply precautions; they are what one of the London journals calls them, steady progress toward a state of war. That is the way they are regarded by the other powers, which are acting accordingly.

The ordering home of the native troops in India is especially significant. The place at which they are to be stationed is still unknown. At Calcutta it is thought to be Malta. The journal referred to says—"We may suppose that the resolution of the Government depends upon this or that contingency, but the practical lesson of the last few weeks is that a resolute hand is guiding a mystified people to an appointed end. Austria has not yet broken with Russia, although the latter talks sharply; the obvious desire on Russia's part is to preserve intact the imperial triple alliance. Matters promise to drift on in their present style for a few weeks more, when the whole issue can hardly fail of coming to a head. Unless England really means war, she is making preparations on a stupendous scale for the sake of mere bluster. She could hardly afford to do it.

AN INCOME TAX.

Since this once repealed tax has been revived in Congress by a favorable report from the Ways and Means Committee, discussion of the whole subject is going on in the press. Its alleged unconstitutionality, its impolicy, and its injustice are each dwelt upon and emphasized at length. The Constitution expressly prohibits the laying and collection of a capitation tax. An income tax is not imposed according to numbers. Before the old income law had its amount of exemption raised, there were in 1869, at the time of its repeal, but about 275,000 persons from whom some $34,000,000 were collected. After the exemption was made larger, there were but 216,000 persons. There were many States in which the amount collected barely met the expense of collection. This alone should demonstrate the inequality of a tax of this kind.

But its offensively inquisitorial character offers constant temptation and stimulus to false swearing, hypocrisy and concealment. This is demoralizing to any community. Then, too, it is a tax that should be laid with a careful and even a delicate discrimination; a distinction should be made between the sources from which incomes are derived. The man who by dint of close industry saves a certain sum above the two thousand dollars exempted, ought not to be taxed in the same way that is followed with another man who inherited his fortune and does nothing to gain his income. The present law, however, makes no difference between them. And it likewise taxes the interest that has accrued on bonds, notes and mortgages, whether paid or not, if good, leaving of course either their possessor or the assessor to decide. But to have to pay a tax on interest that has not been paid, and perhaps never may be, is having to pay a tax on an income not yet enjoyed. There are other hardships and wrongs about the proposed law, the free discussion of whose merits ought to convince Congress that it is not wanted by the people.

BACK TO THE FARMS.

The increasing disposition of people to go back upon the land is manifest on all sides. They at length discover that trade has been overdone, and that it is high time they betook themselves to the work of production again. Collector Beard remarked at the Middlesex Club, last Saturday, in speaking of the changes that were coming over the popular mind, "there is only one remedy for the hard times—that is, to restore the proportion of the tillers of the soil in comparison with the trades and professions. * * No matter what party questions arise or divide the people on the subject of the hard times, the question of tilling the soil is setting and will settle the problem." They all come back to the land again as soon as there is a hard problem to solve,—merchants, bankers, politicians and statesmen. That is the panacea for all social ills. We have said before, and repeat it now, that the possession of so much land is the real salvation of the country and of republican institutions. Farming is the occupation on which all persons rely at last, and it is the great preservative of our peace and prosperity.

THE SUICIDAL MANIA.

So frequent have suicides of late become, the subject has been brought prominently forward by the pulpit and the press. Various views have been promulgated. Some argue that it is heroic to die when life becomes too wearisome to endure, a certain clergyman of deserved distinction in this city observing in a recent discourse that, in his parish experience, he had witnessed cases of suicide at which he could utter no complaint or criticism. It is like going back to old pagan days, to hear this shocking practice palliated or upheld. In the time of Cato and Cicero, the taking of one's own life was, as all readers well know, regarded as the part of a philosopher, stoic though he might be. A Greek philosopher such as Zeno was, who had discoursed so long against the folly of enduring suffering or even discomfort when death was at all times within reach, deliberately took his life merely because he had the misfortune to dislocate a finger.

It surprises and shocks one when he hears or reads of an aged person, eighty years old perhaps, who has made way with himself, oftentimes because he feared that he should come to want. Sometimes an old man will hang himself because he has lost property; sometimes from sheer loneliness; sometimes for no reason that anybody else understands. And young lads, scarce twenty, often not older than fourteen, turn the loaded pistol against themselves or suspend themselves by the neck. Young girls drown in company because they are disappointed in a romance, or because they think the world is dark and dreary before them. The moods and impulses that beset the suicide are various indeed, and generally unaccountable. It is not always hard times that bring on the mania. It often seems like an infection of the atmosphere, seizing certain persons unaccountably and hurrying them on to their fate. The habitual cultivation of a cheerful and sunny spirit is its surest preventive.

FRAUD UPON FRAUD.

The discovery of the enormous defalcations of Hathaway, coming immediately upon the Chace disclosures, has dealt a staggering blow at the present prosperity of Fall River and brought down several powerful manufacturing corporations in ruins. While the lawyers were discussing the possibility of punishing Chace at all for his gigantic frauds, the exposure of his confederate Hathaway appals the business community. It will take a long time to restore to soundness the confidence never till now shaken in Fall River Mills. These two disclosures seem to knock the entire bottom out of further business transactions in that quarter. Both of the guilty men, now secure in jail, were trusted implicitly by the directors of the corporations of which they were Treasurers, and enjoyed the perfect respect and esteem of the community.

Their downfall teaches that it is a crime to take the first wrong step in what relates to the care and custody of the property of other persons. They began with taking money that belonged to the mills and using it in enterprises and operations of their own. That was criminal at the start. The greater their opportunity to use money in that way, the stronger of course their temptation. Therefore they should have been all the more strongly guarded against taking the first devious step. They knew it would lead to the widest ruin if it proved a failure. There ought not to be any question over the matter of punishment which such men have righteously earned. They should be made a warning for all men of their own day and generation. It is time to apply the axe to the root of the tree in this business, and it must be done at once and with vigor and resolution.

The Fall River Defalcation.—Vigilance, it has been said, is the price of liberty. It is no less the security of all monied institutions. It was through the adoption of the plan recommended by the Hon. Daniel Needham, United States Bank Examiner, that the Hathaway defalcation was exposed. It became necessary to issue notes to raise money to meet impending liabilities, and as Col. Needham's plan of registering and countersigning all notes had been adopted, Hathaway was at once detected. But for the adoption of this new system the defalcation might have been covered up for a much longer time. Is it not time that legislation should provide punishment for the over issue of notes as well as stock?

The Weight of Bread.—There is no more reason why bakers and the venders of bread should be absolved from standard weights for their different loaves than there is why charcoal dealers and sellers of potatoes, corn and oats should be at liberty to use such bushel and peck measures as suit them best. It surprised every one, or reading a recent report of the Chief of Police, to find that on loaves of bread that are sold in the city there is a variation of ten ounces in what goes for the legally required two pounds loaf. Thirty-eight loaves were purchased from twenty six different places where bread is sold, and carefully weighed very soon after being taken from the oven. The four cent loaves weighed all the way from eight and a-half to twelve ounces; the five cents from eight and three-quarters to fifteen ounces; the ten cents from fifteen and a-quarter to twenty-five and a quarter ounces. The bread was all of good quality, but what a disheartening variance in the weights! The law is extremely rigid in its provisions, and the Mayor means to see that hereafter it is enforced.

Tornadoes at the West.—These outbursts and explosions of the wind forces seem to regard the West as their legitimate playground, and almost at regular intervals they let themselves loose for the consternation of an extended population. On Sunday last there was another exhibition of this character, crossing Missouri and Illinois into Indiana, wrecking houses and barns, tearing up trees by the roots, destroying fences, and sprinkling human beings, horses and cattle widely over the landscape. The storm had a track a mile wide in its course, and was accompanied with hail. The loss of life was very great, but as it was distributed over so large an area its effect would not be likely to be so impressive. There seems to be no protection against such storms in the West, from the very conformation of the country. These cyclones are bred in the mountains of the northwest, and come roaring down over the vast prairie country without encountering the least resistance. Of course they have their own way, and everything is swept with tumultuous violence before them. Some people would not think it eminently desirable to live in such a country, but out there they appear to like it all the same.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.—The Report of the Massachusetts Society, recently issued, contains many items of great interest to the community. The receipts for the last year, including those from interest, amounted to $5797 15, while the expenses were $12,018 63. The bequests during the year were in all $9300, which, with an additional gift of $100, gives the Society a total of $15,664 10. The Society, through its agents, has investigated 3710 cases. 1488 of which were remedied without resorting to legal process, 102 were carried to court, 85 were convicted. There were issued 461 warnings, 335 animals were killed, and 338 were taken from work for unfitness. Outside of the city there are 24 stations, all are occupied constantly. So excellent and humane a work as that to which the Society devotes itself deserves the sympathy and co-operation of all persons. Those who are looking around to see where they can place gifts of money, large or small, and are considering the matter of bequests, will do well by their reflections to give a thoughtful attention to the silent claims of the dumb animals on the race to which they minister.

The Strike in England.—The extended rebellion in the manufacturing districts of England against a reduction of wages has become so far consolidated that it now threatens the most serious consequences. The strikers comprise men who pursue the greatest variety of industry. The master owners have felt compelled to reduce wages ten per cent. and in some cases only five. This the operatives refuse to submit to. The condition of foreign markets and of general trade the latter seems to be unwilling to take into account. It is not at all likely that the mill owners are desirous of disbanding their help and breaking up their business, or even of disturbing their relations in the least unless compelled by necessity. But the operatives, to the number of a hundred and twenty thousand in all, are determined to try conclusions in their own direct way. They will have full wages or nothing, forgetting that the mills themselves are not enjoying the benefit of a full demand. They declare that they will resist this reduction of wages to the point of starvation itself. The business will begin to be a dangerous one at that point.

Lord Dufferin.—Canada is to lose her Governor General shortly, and she begins to lament the loss in advance of its coming. The present Governor has made himself one of the natives during his official stay, and probably knows personally more about it than any of the average population. His administration has been characterized by remarkable tact and address, while it has been none the less efficient and faithful. No public man in the Dominion makes a more happy or acceptable address, and besides this he enjoys the reputation of being a rare scholar. His popularity is so genuine that the Government leader in parliament moved, and the Opposition leader seconded, the resolution expressive of the profound esteem in which he is held and the regret felt at the prospect of his departure. It is not often granted to public men to live to witness the judgment of their fellow-men respecting them, and especially when it is so entirely favorable and thoroughly grateful.

Sale of Jersey Cattle.—There will be a sale of Jersey Cattle at the auction mart of Messrs. Isburgh & Walker, East Street, Boston, from the herds of A. T. Brown, Walnut Hills Farm, Brookline, and Cornelius Wellington, East Lexington, Mass., on Wednesday May 1st at 11 o'clock. The dams and sires of the animals are from the herds of the most experienced importers and breeders of Jersey Cattle, and were selected with special reference to butter and milking qualities. Catalogues can be obtained from the auctioneers a week before the sale.

☞ A lady residing in Fort Collins, Colorado, writing to a friend says: "A storm of dust, and such snow swept over us. The dust-banks were in many places ten feet high. Houses loosely made were in some places so filled with dust and sand that the floors broke down. The storm was so violent as to force the sand through the crevices of doors and windows of brick houses into every apartment. In some instances the occupants of frame buildings were driven out by the dust and sand, and were obliged to take refuge with the neighbors who chanced to have brick houses. Hor se in frame barns had be dug out of their stalls. Wheat that had been drilled or dragged in was blown away, soil and all

READ AND RUN.

—The strikers in England mean victory or starvation. They are much more likely to get the latter.

—The new Back Bay Park is receiving between fifteen hundred and two thousand loads of material for filling every day.

—The labor of the convicts in the State Prison is being contracted for at advanced prices.

—The Massachusetts Press Association go to the White Mountains this season, making the excursion about the 1st of July.

—The Mayor has issued an order requiring all bakers in the city to comply strictly with the law in respect to the weights of their bread. There is a wonderful variation in the weight now.

—The pool bill passed by the Legislature takes effect in thirty days from the time of its passage.

—The Five Cents Savings Bank of this city has thought best to apply its rule to the payment of depositors.

—The Black Hills have been visited with a heavy snow storm, and quartz mining had to be suspended in consequence.

—More and more, every year, the people of the far interior, even to the Mississippi, come to the coast and the mountains for summer recreation and refreshment.

—The new spring bonnets were all out on exhibition last Sunday, which was Easter Day.

—They are vigorously discussing the question horsebouts whether a genuine artist has a right to copy a figure or a face wherever he may chance to find it, and still claim to be original.

—The *Burlington Hawkeye* remarks that if brass were to be remonetized instead of silver, specie payment would be resumed within fifteen minutes of the passage of the bill.

—A good many people will go to the Paris Exposition in the rear portions of their dwellings, having first carefully closed the front.

—All sorts of rumors are afloat in those times, about almost everybody and everything. It is no more than prudence to receive them all with a grain of salt, so to speak.

—April will pass for a capricious month, and in this respect has been quite consistent with its character. On the whole, it has proved its claim to be regarded as a part of the train of Spring.

—The Chief Justice of Michigan has been requested to address the members of the Boston Law School, early in June.

—Mrs. Howes, of Roxbury, achieved her hundredth birthday last Monday.

—Gen. Grant has been "doing" Florence and Rome.

—The rumors and opinions respecting the future condition of Europe are as contradictory as possible.

—Fall River is at present experiencing the prostration of further financial disasters.

—The bell-punch is decidedly going out of favor.

—Sagacious persons think it is delay rather than peace that is meant by the prolonged negotiations in Europe, and we must confess that it does look a good deal like it.

—The proposal made in New York, is to pension the police.

—They talk elevated railway so soon out in St. Louis.

—The death of William Orton, President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, removes from that powerful monopoly a directing and executive mind of remarkable ability.

—Nothing seems to be left for Congress to do about resumption but to stand aside and let it come.

—We sorely regret to learn that the King of Dahomey is in want of money too.

—The new Pope is a reformer, and has begun by cutting down salaries about the Vatican.

—A monument is to be erected over the grave of Andrew Johnson next month.

—People are beginning to make arrangements about spending the Summer away from home, and are choosing their cottages, rooms, and other accommodations.

—The Indian question is coming up again, in a number of forms.

—The William Tell business on the stage, as fatally illustrated in a town in Rhode Island, has already called out seven prohibitory bills in relation to it in as many Legislatures.

—They say that anybody can stay handsomely in Paris during the Exposition for $3.25 per day, and elegantly for $5. On the left bank of the Seine it can be done for half price.

—Some fifty cottages have already been rented for the season at Newport.

—They think in Brooklyn that they have church property enough to last them for the remainder of the century.

—The Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association has voted to hold an Exhibition this year, and appropriated fifty thousand dollars for that purpose.

—The West was riotous with tornadoes on Sunday last.

—Several hundred acres of valuable wood land were burned over in Dennis, Mass., the first of the week.

—Michigan is infested with an organized band of brigands, who do not stop at murder if that is necessary for their purpose.

—The criticism is made that Americans in Paris are the only persons anxious to disown their nativity. They should be condemned to go without a country all their lives.

—The passenger elevator of the Howe Sewing Machine Company of Chicago fell a distance of eighty-five feet, with ten persons in it. But one escaped unhurt.

—There was a handsome increase in the quantity of pig iron made in the country last year over that of the year previous.

—Horace Lapham, of Shoreham, Vt., died a few days ago, a farmer. He left a farm of eleven hundred acres, and an estate of $75,0 0, all accumulated by farming.

—Semi-resplendent fruit from the Mediterranean is for the market in large quantities.

—Help in various establishments is being paid off in gold, here and there.

—George Francis Train is pleased to predict great and grand things for Boston. Thanks!

—The Permanent Exhibition in Philadelphia is to be reopened on the 1st of May.

—The family monogram is worn on the driver's hat in Louisville.

—The Phonograph of the Future will be told about by Edison, the inventor, in the next number of the *North American Review*.

—The President is in Philadelphia this week.

—Grass is looking finely. The rains are doing the very work it needs.

—Gen Grant is in Venice. He thinks Rome is a very fine city.

—The famous St. Nicholas Hotel in New York is no longer a living hotel.

—Chace and Hathaway took the same path in Fall River, and it has led them both straight to prison.

—A new scheme is on foot for the introduction of American manufactures into Brazil.

—Business paper in this market is in but moderate supply.

—Portland has had a loose menagerie lion hunting around town, which was captured, however, with much roaring or devouring.

—The River and Harbor Appropriation Bill which has just been passed by Congress disposes of seven and a half million dollars.

—The Merrimac Silver Mine at Newburyport has suspended operations on account of crookedness about its financial management.

—Fall River has received the severest blow to its industry ever received by any city in the country.

—The wife of Alderman Gibson died a few days since, in consequence of injuries received from the falling of a staging erected for viewing the military procession on the 17th of September last, the day of the dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument.

—Sitting Bull is on the war path again, stirring up the braves of the various tribes. They have needle-guns among them.

—Rev. Dr. R. S. Storrs, of Brooklyn has this week delivered in Boston his two lectures on the Ottoman and the Muscovite. They were extremely eloquent and impressive.

—It is proposed in the City School Committee to reduce the salaries of non-resident schoo teachers ten per cent.

—A great many speculations are entertained on the subject of Boston's losses by the Fall River defalcations.

—The Newburyport *Herald* is in its eighty-fifth year, and has just gone into its new printing-house.

—Springfield, Mass., is arranging for a proud and festive time on the occasion of the assembling of the Army of the Potomac on the 5th, and 6th of June. The President is to be there.

—The Rhode Island legislature is called to meet on Friday of the present week, and will probably pass a Savings Banks law like the one in this State.

—Murphy and his lieutenants are working for temperance with marked success in Western Connecticut.

—A handsome monument of Scotch granite is to be placed over the grave of the late President Smith, of Dartmouth College, next month.

—The sugar crop of Cuba it is estimated will fall short about a hundred thousand tons.

—Mr Ralph Waldo Emerson lectured again in the Old South this week.

—The Chicopee Manufacturing Company is shipping largely of its heavy flannel goods to Alaska.

☞ *Scribner's Monthly* for May has a table composed thus; Merry Days with Bow and Quiver, illustrated; Roxy, Part VII, illustrated; Lissy; The Astronomer; Camps and Tramps about Ktaadn; Bird Architecture; The First Butterfly; Little Rose and the House of the Snowy Range; The New York Post Office; His Inheritance, Part X, illustrated; Our Pets and Protectors, illustrated; Camping Out at Rudder Grange; Concerning the Use of Faggots at Geneva; Bohemian Days, illustrated; Medjeska; May; An Impossible Story; The Dove; In Arcana Librarum; and the usual departments that cluster around the editor's table. It is a superb number, and some very distinguished names are recorded on its pages. For sale by A. Williams & Co.

☞ *St. Nicholas* for May is crowded with attractions in great variety for the juveniles. The list is too long for recapitulation. The pictures are numerous and excellent, and the tales and sketches are as good as they can be. The number is fairly redolent of Spring. The breath of May is breathed over its pages. Among the writers are Louisa Alcott, Lucretia Hale, Lucy Larcom, Mary Halleck Foote, and Celia Thaxter. No better magazine can be placed in the hands of the young folks, whether to instruct or amuse them, or both. For sale by A. Williams & Co.

☞ *Sunday Afternoon* for May contains the following articles in prose and verse;—Periwinkle; A Typographical Crime; The Morning Moon; College Morals; The crew of the Sam Weller; Dr. Franklin's Investment; A Mayflower; Ways and Means; Reminiscences of Washington Allston; One Summer's Work; The Alexandrian Schools; Tom's Heathen; The Cuckoo; A Russian Village Tea-Party; The Constitution of Benevolent Societies; The Donkey's Miracle; In the Church Tower; and Editor's Table. For sale by A Williams & Co.

☞ *The Atlantic Monthly* for May has a superior list of contents, being as follows: Detmold, a romance, continued; May Days, consisting of extracts from the journal of Thoreau; Recent Florence, by Henry James, Jr.; From Ponkapog to Pesth, by T. B. Aldrich; Who Pays Protective Duties? by Horatio C. Burchard; The Silver Question Geologically Considered, by Prof. Shaler; About Mawnanimous Incident Literature, by Mark Twain; Some Recent Volumes of Verse, by W. D. Howells, the editor; The Old Pope and the New, by Wm. C. Langdon; Americanisms, by Richard Grant White; and poems by H. H., Boyeson, Taylor, Trowbridge, and Laura Fenlity. The Contributors' Club, Editorial Department, and the brief story of The Dancin' at Harrison's Cove makes the issue a complete and brilliant success. For sale by A. Williams & Co.

☞ *The Invalid's Hotel*, at Buffalo, N. Y., is to be opened to a reception of the Press of the United States on Monday evening next. It is a grand edifice, erected by its enterprising proprietor for the better personal care of invalids from all parts of the country. This reception is most courteously extended by Dr R. V. Pierce, in recognition of the valuable aid he has received from the press in establishing and promoting his business, and in order to bring about a desired personal acquaintance.

☞ The Cooley Creamer, advertised in another column, claims to raise the cream very quick, an advantage for dairying persons. The quantity and quality of the cream extracted is said to be very uniform, without regard to season or climate. We learn that it has been extensively introduced into the dairies of Vermont and New York.

—Mr. Beecher is to have a new house at Peekskill, but we question if it will be any pleasanter than the old one.

—The English people need'nt think the horses we are sending them will prove of any service in retreat. They know nothing of that style of movement.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

THE CONVEYANCE OF ENGLISH TROOPS TO MALTA—AN AUGMENTED FLEET.

The *Central News* says: "The India government have chartered five steamers for the conveyance of troops from India, three of which are taken for three months, their primary destination being Port Said. The others are to be engaged for two months These are the St. Asaph, a celebrated Australian steamer of fifty-five hundred tons burthen, capable of transporting five thousand men, and the Nankin, of thirty-five hundred tons, capable of carrying a full regiment." The United Service Gazette says that it has good reason for saying that there will be a strong combined Channel and Baltic fleet formed during the next two months. The first brigade will embark for Malta on the 20th instant.

PROPOSED DEPARTURE OF RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH FORCES FROM BEFORE CONSTANTINOPLE.

The *Agence Russe* confirms the report that the proposition for a simultaneous withdrawal of the British fleet and Russian forces from their vicinity of Constantinople has been accepted in principle, and adds that negotiations continue relative to the withdrawal and a preliminary conference to settle the programme of Congress.

A FRIENDLY SPIRIT.

The *Times* correspondent at St. Petersburg says that the discussion relative to the withdrawal from Constantinople continues in a friendly spirit. As it concerns technicalities, requiring the advice of specialists on the spot, it may be protracted. If England and Russia agree regarding the withdrawal it will be necessary to obtain a guarantee from the Porte that it will offer no obstacle to the peaceful occupation of a status quo in event of the failure of further negotiations.

RUMORED ATTACK OF MUSSULMANS ON THE RUSSIANS.

Intelligence in regard to the military situation is less encouraging. A report is current in Constantinople that 8,000 Mussulmans (presumably in the Balkan districts) have armed themselves with cannon and rifles left behind by Suleiman Pasha at the time of his retreat, and attacked the Russians. It is said that the Russians have lost 900 men and 13 officers, and have asked for reinforcements from Adrianople. The Bulgarians have attacked Mussulman villages and committed great outrages.

BELIEF THAT CONGRESS WILL MEET.

A *Herald* special cable from St. Petersburg states that the German and Austrian Ambassadors there believe that the Congress will now assemble.

UNEASINESS OF THE ENGLISH PRESS.

The prevailing feeling in the English press is one of great uneasiness. Berlin specials to the English papers are all very despondent and think that the difficulties which will be encountered in settling upon any scheme for the withdrawal of the fleet and troops from Constantinople. A Vienna dispatch says the aspect of affairs is neither better nor worse.

THE RUSSIAN TROOPS AND BRITISH FLEET.

The course of negotiations makes it more apparent that Russia meant to make any concession relative to the Congress dependent on some arrangement as to the relative position of her own and the English forces. The fact that the Russians did not reject the idea of withdrawing to Adrianople, and that the negotiations have been pending on that basis, shows that they would set great value on the withdrawal of the British fleet beyond the Dardanelles. Still, as Beaika bay is only about 12 hours' sail from Stamboul, while Adrianople is three days forced march distant, the Russians thought they would be placed at a disadvantage, unless some arrangement as to the number of a force landed, or the event of an outbreak of hostilities, some priority of movement is allowed them. This seemed to raise the whole question of the equivalent to be given by the Russians for the withdrawal of the fleet. Nor is it clear whether their claims have created a stumbling block which cannot be surmounted.

DIFFICULTIES BEFORE THE CONGRESS.

There are also indications of other difficulties. Thus, even if the Congress meets, months may probably pass before it solves all questions before it, and if the Turks meanwhile evacuate various points in accordance with the treaty of San Stefano, and Russia proceeds to carry out the various constitutional reforms prescribed therein, the congress will every day be confronted by some new accomplished fact.

RUSSIA'S PROBABLE COURSE.

Russia is not likely to stay the execution of the treaty till after Congress, as that would be a direct admission of the right of the powers to revise the treaty.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET FITTING FOR SEA.

The Cronstadt *Messenger* announces that the equipment of the Russian Baltic fleet is proceeding with all haste. It will go to sea as soon as the ice breaks. It consists of seven vessels, including Peter the Great, one of the two most powerful vessels of the Russian iron-clad navy. The Peter the Great is a massive, double-turret ship of 9510 tons and carries four 35-ton guns, and her armor thickness at the water line is 14 inches.

RUSSIA AND ROUMANIA.

Various telegrams continue to show a decrease of tension between Russia and Roumania. The Times' Bucharest dispatch says the Russians are not pushing their forces so far toward Carpathians as was intended. It is believed that no further interference with their lines of communication is likely.

It is rumored that the Czar has written an autograph letter to Prince Charles couched in a friendly tone as regards him personally, but complaining of the course followed by his Government.

EVACUATION OF SHUMLA.

A Rustchuk correspondent of the Times telegraphs that Grand Duke Nicholas summoned the Turks to evacuate Shumla within eight days.

BRADLEY'S SUPERPHOSPHATE.

Hollis, N. H.

I have used Bradley's Superphosphate for several years past with other popular brands. I find Bradley's superior to any other, and I think it is worthy of its good name. The contrast between my potatoes, where a small quantity was used and where barn manure was used, was more than one-third, there being more where the Superphosphate was used, and of a much better quality. Respectfully yours,

WARNER PIERCE.

☞ Thirteen cents is the cost of five gallons of soft soap, made from one pound of Dobbins' Electric Soap, (made by Cragin & Co. 144 State St. Boston,) and the soft soap will go further than a dollars' worth of common soap. Try it,

THE CRISIS.

What think you would be the result if the earth should stop spinning around the sun? Were you ever near a large and intricate machine when one of its wheels became clogged or broken—near enough to hear the grating, jarring clash, the sudden, deafening crash? Astronomers assure us that precisely similar effects, only on an inconceivably grander scale, would be produced if our earth—one of the wheels in the universe-machine—should suddenly cease its revolutions. In other words, there would be a general clash and crash of satellites, planets and systems. What we term financial crises are due to similar causes. One of the wheels in the finance-machine becomes clogged, perhaps shattered. The terrible Wall-street "crash" which follows is communicated to every part of the financial mechanism of the country. But analogies do not stop here. There is that other mechanism, the most intricate of all—sometimes called an organism because it generates its own forces—the human machine. When one of its members fails to perform its office, the whole system is thrown into disorder. Members before considered unassailable, break down under the unnatural pressure. The shock comes, and utter prostration is the result. Reparation can only be effected by the restoration of the impaired parts and the re-adjustment of its levers,—the physical forces. There is one part of the machine more liable to disorder than any other,—the liver,—the great balance wheel of the machine.

The liver being the great depurating or blood-cleansing organ of the system, set it at work and the foul corruptions which gender in the blood, and rot out, as it were, the machinery of life, are gradually expelled from the system. Before this purpose Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, used daily, and Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets, taken in very small doses, are preeminently the articles needed. They change every kind of humor, from the worst scrofula to the common pimple, blotch or eruption. Great eating ulcers kindly heal under their mighty curative influence. Virulent blood poisons that lurk in the system are by them robbed of their terrors, and by their persevering and somewhat protracted use the most shattered systems may be completely renovated and built up anew. Enlarged glands, tumors and swellings dwindle away and disappear under the influence of these great resolvents.

[From the Troy Daily Times.]

PERUVIAN SYRUP is a standard remedy for building up and renewing broken down or nervous constitutions. For Dyspepsia, Debility, Liver Complaint, Kidney and Bladder Diseases or part of the many irregularities of the various organs of the human frame, it is a sovereign remedy. It is a tonic without alcohol. This medicine is too well-known already to require any commendations from us. It is only necessary for us to say to those who have never given it a trial that it will accomplish all that is claimed for it. Now is the time to tone up the system before the hot months of summer fairly set in. Sold by all druggists.

TO PLAY WITH A RATTLESNAKE

is not more dangerous than to disregard a Cough. The cure is simple, agreeable, obtainable everywhere. A few doses of "Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar" removes the irritation that produces the cough. Nothing can be more certain or more harmless No cough or Cold can resist its healing, soothing, strengthening operation.

Pike's Toothache Drops cure in one minute.

BOSTON STOCK MARKET.

April 24, 1878, at 3 P. M.

As Corrected by Brewster, Basset & Co., No. 36 Congress Street.

	Bid.	Asked.
Water Power	1 5-16	1¼
Boston Land	2½	
Atch. & Topeka	96	
Do. land grant 7's	96½	
Do. 2d 7's	69	69½
Do. land 6's	106	
Eastern R. R., 5's	63	65
Hartford & Erie 7's	12½	
Union Pacific 6's	104	104½
" " Land grant	102½	103
" " S. Fund 6's	92½	93
Atchison & Topeka	25½	26
Boston & Albany R. R.	—	
Boston & Maine R. R.	104	104½
Burlington & Mo. in Neb.	—	
Chi. Bur. & Quincy R. R.	104	105½
Cin. San. & Cleveland	—	
Eastern R. R.	—	
Michigan Central R. R.	—	
Old Colony R. R.	100½	100¾
Phil. Wilm. & Baltimore	62½	63
Ogdensburgh & L. Champ	—	
Cumberl. & Hecla	177	180
Quincy	16	

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

	Bid.	Asked
Gold		100½
1881, registered	10	102
5-20's 1865, July	104½	104¾
5-20's 1867, July	107	107¼
5-20's 1868, July	106½	106¾
Ten-Forties	104½	104¾
New-Five's	103½	103¾
Currency, 6's	118	119
4½'s Coupon	103½	103¾
4½'s Reg.	103½	103¾
4's Coupon	100½	100¾
4's Reg.		

INVESTMENTS.

United States Bonds, various issues,

Coupon and Registered. City and Town Bonds, issued for existing improvements, for sale by

BREWSTER, BASSET & CO.,

Bankers, 35 Congress Street.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, 17th inst., by Rev. G. W. H. Clark of Fitchburg, Rev. Seth C. Cary, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at West Warren, to Hattie L. Boutelle, of Boston.

In this city, 21st inst., by Rev. Rufus Ellis, Jacob Meyer, Jr., to Emeline C. Bochr, both of Boston.

In this city, 23d inst., by Rev. E. K. Alden

New Advertisements.

RETAIL PRICE LIST OF SPRING OVERCOATS MANUFACTURED BY MACULLAR, WILLIAMS & PARKER, FOR SPRING SEASON OF 1878.

READY FOR IMMEDIATE USE.

1st Tan Grey Mixed Diagonal Coating	$12
2nd Oxford " " "	$12
3rd Oxford " " "	$14
4th Black and White Mixed "	$14
5th Dark Grey "	$15
6th All-wool Black Cheviot "	$15
7th All-wool Black Worsted Diagonal	$16
8th All-wool Dark Brown Mixed Melton	$18
9th " Drab "	$18
10th Finish Worsted Diagonal "	$20
11th " " "	$20
12th Scotch Mixed Paletot "	$20
13th All-wool Brown Worsted Diagonal	$20
14th German Silk Mixed Coating	$20
15th French Oxford Mixed Worsted	$20
16th " Dark Blue Worsted Diagonal	$22
17th " Black, very fine "	$22
18th " " " "	$28
19th " " " "	$28
20th New style, finest Black, fancy Worsted	$28
21st " " Dark Blue "	$28
22nd " " Brown "	$28

SPRING ULSTERS.

1st All-wool Scotch Plaid Cheviot	$20
2nd All-wool " "	$12
3rd All-wool " "	$12

These garments are all made in our own workshops, expressly for our retail trade, from goods made for and imported by ourselves.

Macullar, Williams & Parker,
400 Washington St.,
BOSTON.
—AND—
43 & 52 Westminster Street,
Providence, R. I.

NEW EXCELSIOR LAWN MOWER.
Important Improvements
FOR 1878.

Philadelphia and Hill's Lawn Mowers; Garden and Field Rollers; Wheelbarrows, Shovels, Hoes, Spades and Forks; Grass Hooks; Edging Knives; Grass and Border Shears; Scissors; Floral Tools; Garden Rakes; Lawn Sprinkler; Hand Force Pumps; Superphosphate of Lime; Animal Fertilizers; Ground Plaster; Lawn Fertilizers, &c.
AT LOWEST PRICES
—AT—
PARKER & GANNETT'S
Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store,
49 No. Market St., 46 Merchants' Row,
BOSTON.
ap27 4w Send for Circulars. cow4t

SEEDS!
THE BEST OF EVERY VARIETY.
VEGETABLE,
For Market and Family Gardens.
FLOWER,
For Family Gardens and Florists' use.
FIELD SEEDS,
of great variety and the most approved for profitable culture for
FODDER CROPS,
as Evergreen Sweet Corn, Indian Corn, Hungarian Grass, Common Millet, Golden Millet, and for
ROOT CROPS.
TURNIPS in all best sorts, English Flat, Carter's Imperial, London Extra, Shamrock, Skirving's and White Swedes.
MANGEL WURTZEL, Long Red, Giant and Long Red, Improved Olive-shaped Red, Olive-shaped Yellow, Improved and White Silesian Sugar Beet, &c. &c.
All carefully grown and selected ready for the wants of Market and Private Gardens, Farmers and Country Merchants. Catalogues and prices sent on application.
SCHLEGEL, EVERETT & CO.,
ap27 2t 26 South Market St., Boston.

Unparalleled Success of the
OLIVER CHILLED PLOW!
No PLOW has ever been introduced in this section that stands so well on all kinds of land. Send for illustrated DRAFT Plow in this locality. Send for circulars.
Also, the Celebrated
RUSSEL COE'S PHOSPHATE.
Darling's Animal Fertilizer and Bone.
SEEDS AND TOOLS
OF ALL KINDS.
The best LAWN MOWER in the Market.
WHITTEMORE BROS.
Nos. 128 & 130 So. Market St., Boston.
ap27 2t

SEED CORN.
I HAVE for sale a few bushels of the HAPGOOD SEED CORN, crop of 1877, from a yield of 81 bushels shelled corn to the acre with ordinary culture.
Also a few bushels of FODDER SWEET SEED CORN.
Address C. E. HAPGOOD & CO., 274 Commercial, Boston, or JOAB HAPGOOD, Nantucket, Mass.
JOAB HAPGOOD.

White Leghorn Eggs,
FROM pure bred stock for hatching, at $1.00 per setting of two dozen at our order, $1.50. Address GEO. P. HAYWARD, Highland St., Boston Highlands, Mass.

KENTUCKY PATCHEN STALLION
"JOHN T. RUSSELL,"
WILL stand for mares the present season at F. WHITAKER'S STABLE, corner of Fannell and Parsons Streets,
BRIGHTON, MASS.
Terms—$25 the season; $50 to warrant; payable at time of first service. Season will commence the 1st of March, 1878, and end the first day of August. 47½ Mares at owner's risk.
Pedigree.—John T. Russell was sired by Geo. M. Patchen, and he by Cassius M. Russell's Hambletonian; he by Bull and he by Pilot, Jr. Russell's dam was by Star Davis, and he by Imported Gleniston. Russell was sired by the same stallion Lucy, and her record is 2.18, American and California Patchen, he a record of 2.27, and Godfrey's Patchen, and his record is 2.36. Mr. Russell's record is 2.30.
Remarks.—John T. Russell is a Blood Bay Stallion with black points, very lengthy and a strong and heavy muscle horse; he stands 16 hands and weighs 1200 pounds, long tail, and weight 1200 pounds; is a square gaited, high styled stallion. He was sired in Kentucky in the fall of 1865. He has been handled only three seasons and got for himself a record of 2.36½ over the Mystic Park, Medford, Mass., trotting in 2.34 class, late in Oct. 1875, in the size of a bay filly, 3 years old, that was sold by Hamlin to a Connecticut gentleman for the sum of $4,500. Star Davis is a first class race horse, and sire of his progeny are the same.
F. WHITAKER,
Brighton, Mass.,
ap27 Cow 94 & 96 Portland St., Boston.

Valuable Real Estate for Sale, IN IPSWICH.
THE well-known Farm of Oliver Under-wood, deceased. Said Farm is delightfully situated 1½ miles from the centre of the town of Ipswich, on the road leading to Topsfield, village and woodland. The buildings are a very fine Dwelling House of 12 rooms, with a closet in each, and an L of 6 rooms. The House is papered, painted and blinded, and the L painted and blinded, all in good condition; a good cellar with cement floor, a cistern and two never failing wells of excellent water; also, a good Barn, about 40x100 feet, and nearly covered; a carriage house, tool house, repair for poultry house, and all other buildings necessary for carrying on extensive farming.
On the Farm are 100 apple, 100 peach, 300 pear and quince, cherry, etc. The trees are all in bearing condition and yield a large income, particularly the pear trees. This Farm is under a high state of cultivation and known to be one of the best and most pleasantly situated on the main road between Portland and Boston. Possession given at once.
For further particulars, inquire of J. C. UNDERHILL, Administrator, at Ipswich Depot.
ap27-tf

Wanted,
A MAN that understands the care of small fruits, to take charge of a small place in the vicinity of Boston, either on shares or salary. Address
FRUITMAN,
Box No. 1607, Boston.

THE
GLOBE NAIL.
The Best Horse Shoe Nail ever made.

About ten years ago the GLOBE NAIL COMPANY of Boston, put on the market the first pointed, polished and finished Horse Shoe Nails ready for driving. Previous to that time all Horse Shoe Nails were pointed, and most of them made, by the shoers in their own shops.

The Globe Nail was at once found to be much cheaper and better than any then in use. It soon became so popular that all manufacturers of Horse Shoe Nails were compelled to make their Nails to resemble the Globe. For the last ten years it has been the model. Each year the Nail has been greatly improved in quality, and to such a point have we educated the shoers that now they will hardly use a nail unless it is absolutely perfect.
At the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, we were awarded the Medal and the following report, far stronger than that given upon any other Nail:

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1876.
U. S. CENTENNIAL COMMISSION,
[BUREAU OF AWARDS.]
PHILADELPHIA, June 22, 1876.
No. 239, Globe Nail Co., Boston, Mass.:
Horse Shoe Nails, Pointed, Polished and Finished. The uniformity in size, smoothness of finish, hardness and tenacity of the iron, closeness of fibre, and excellence of the head and point, the tensile strength of body, and riveting properties of these Nails, unite in making them of the very highest class of manufacture.
Recommended for an Award of Merit.
DANIEL STEINMETZ, Phila. Chairman,
J. D. IMBODEN, Richmond, Va.,
CHARLES STAPLES, Portland, Me.,
G. L. REED, Clearfield, Pa.,
DAV. McHARDY, Aberdeen, Scotland,
T. DIEFENBACH, Germany.
Group Judges XV.

Until within a few months we have not been able to make these Nails fast enough to supply the demand. We have now increased our facilities so that we are prepared to fill at once orders for any quantity of either number or pattern.

We annex a sample of the testimonials we receive daily from all parts of the country:

GLOBE NAIL CO., BOSTON, MASS.,
CLINTON, Mo., June 8, 1877.
Gentlemen: Find enclosed advertisement and postal card concerning your Nail. Before receiving the scurrilous advertisement and postal card, disparaging the Globe Nail, circulated by a rival manufacturer over the bombastic signature of "Humane Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals." No Society bearing that title ever existed.] As I take a great interest in the prevention of cruelty to animals, and horses in particular,—I desire to say a few words in favor of The Globe Nail. Though I am not a very extensive Horse Sheer, yet I have used enough Nails of the different makes to speak knowingly. I have used the Globe Nail in my shop and on the race track for six years, on all classes of horses, from the heavy draft horse to the tender footed running horse; and I will safely say IT HAS NO SUPERIOR IN POINT OF TOUGHNESS, SHAPE, AND FINISH, AND IT HAS NOT AN EQUAL. I have used about fifteen hundred pounds of Globe Nails a year for the last six years, and in that time I have found four imperfect Nails, two of which I returned to you about two years ago and received in return four perfect ones, for which accept my thanks. The other two, had no better sense than to drive those imperfect Nails! In a horse's foot. I would not consider it the fault of the Nail if the horse was lamed. If horses would look more to the competency of their men and less to trying to get shoeing nails a few cents a pound cheaper, we would have fewer lame horses. I KNOW FOR SAFETY AND QUALITY, THERE IS NOT A MAN WHO UNDERSTANDS HIS BUSINESS TO DRIVE THEM YOUR VALUABLE NAIL CAN BEAT! I am willing to pay without any suit, for all horses that are lamed in my shop by using the Globe Nail. As long as it is made as well as at present, I shall continue to use it, even if I could get other Nails for nothing. I consider it the safest Nail that was ever driven in a horse's foot
Yours truly,
(Signed,) P. H. O'NEILL,
Horse Shoer, No. 1507 Broadway.
P. S. I think I could get every boss in St. Louis to sign this if I thought it necessary. P. H. O'N.

The best Horse is sure to win. SO CLEAR THE TRACK FOR THE
GLOBE NAIL CO.
BOSTON, June 23, 1877.

THE
BOSTON BOOK BULLETIN.
A Quarterly Eclectic Record of American and Foreign Books.
An indispensable companion for all Students and Book-buyers, and formerly a Classified List of American and Foreign Books. It is also of value and interest to the general reader.
Only 30c. per Annum. Free of Postage.
Boston: D. LOTHROP & CO., Publishers.
ap27-1t

Poultry, Eggs, &c.

Plymouth Rocks Exclusively.
EGGS for hatching from selected Fowls of this popular breed at $1.00 and $2.00 per 13. Drake, Upham and Coddington strains. Chicks, two weeks old, $4.00 per dozen. Address
A. C. HAWKINS,
mh2-cow6t Lancaster, Mass.

Plymouth Rock Eggs,
CORBIN'S, Drake and Mason's strain. LIGHT BRAHMAS, Williams' and John's strain AMERICAN DOMINIQUE, and SPANGLED BROWN and DOMINIQUE LEGHORNS, $1.50 per 13, 3 settings, $4.00. A. F. HARVEY, Gloucester, Mass.

John Swinerton Still Lives!
AND SELLS EGGS from Fowls as good as L. K. Felch's or any other man, for the small sum of $1.50 per setting of 13 eggs.
DOMINIQUES, BLACK SPANISH,
LIGHT BRAHMAS, BROWN LEGHORN.
ap20-3t* Danvers, Mass.

HENRY W. PARTELOW,
WAKEFIELD, R. I.,
CAN furnish Eggs for Hatching for 1878, from as fine yards of
American Dominiques,
Plymouth Rocks,
Partridge Cochins,
As you can find at $2.00 per 13. Warranted fresh and true to name.
EGGS NOT HATCHING 50 per cent, I will duplicate free.
Inspection invited.
Orders filed in rotation. feb16-13t

Plymouth Rocks & Lt. Brahmas
A SPECIALTY.
I AM prepared to furnish Eggs from choice stock of the above varieties, for $1.50 per setting; two settings, $2.50; five settings, $5.00.
J. S. ALLEN,
mh30-5t* Gloucester, Mass.

FRED. H. DAVIS,
BREEDER OF
Plymouth Rocks "Exclusively."
Chicks, two weeks old, $3.50 per dozen. Eggs, $2.00 per setting of 13.
—ALSO—
Thoroughbred Yorkshire Pigs,
From Premium Stock. Boars, $7 00. Sows, $6 00. Boar and two Sows, $15 00.
Boxed with feed, and delivered to any Express in Boston, free of charge.
P. O. Box 1244. Haverhill, Mass.
mh23 9t*

Choice Fowls and Eggs.
PARTRIDGE COCHINS, DARK BRAHMA PLYMOUTH ROCK, and 27 other varieties of Fowls and Eggs, for sale by E. B. PERKINS
238 Essex St., Salem, Mass.
Enclose and send stamp for Circular. sm9-tf

Eggs! Eggs!! Eggs!!!
PLYMOUTH ROCKS & BROWN LEGHORNS. From the best prize winning strains in the country. Can furnish Eggs from the above at prices to suit the times. For one sitting, 13, $1.50; two sittings to one address, $2.50. Carefully packed to go any distance. No trios for sale.
JAMES L. BICKFORD,
mh23-7t East Medway, Mass.

Plymouth Rocks.
PLYMOUTH ROCKS, Drake strain; Brown Leghorns, Kinsey's strain. Eggs for hatching, $2.50 per 13. F. A. DOW,
mh23 6t* Chestnut Hill, Mass.

GOLD, Costly Outfit free. Address TRUE & Co., Augusta, Maine. feb2

Fertilizers.

STOCKBRIDGE MANURES FOR
Corn and Wheat,
Potatoes, Grass, Oats, Onions, Cabbage, Strawberries, Asparagus, Fruit Trees.
NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE UP YOUR orders. Remember each manure is made to carry out the crop. Nearly every one who has used them speaks of how they "back up" a crop to the end of the season. The cost of applying is also small, for you can haul at a two-horse load enough for 3 or 4 acres of corn or wheat.
WHEAT. We believe New England farmers should raise more wheat as well as corn, and at the present price of flour, it will pay well. It seems to be doing better in New England than a few years ago. Plant an extra acre, and let it be wheat. It is possible to get 40 bushels, and 25 is not a bad crop. War or Peace may be declared in Europe, but whatever the decision, farmers should raise more grain, and thus be independent of fluctuations.
POTATOES. It is probably useless to urge farmers to raise potatoes with the potato bug waking up at the call of spring, but armed with Paris green we should have no fear, and we should say that potatoes raised last year on the Stockbridge were of better quality, smoother, and kept better than those raised on manure.

Bowker's Hill and Drill
PHOSPHATE.
If farmers desire a Phosphate to use in the hill, with manure, to give their crops a start, they should give this a trial. In the Inspector's Report, just issued, it has the highest valuation. It gave universal satisfaction last year.
Also, for sale Animal Fertilizers, Agricultural Chemicals, &c.
SEND FOR PAMPHLET.
W. H. BOWKER & CO.,
43 Chatham St., Boston,
3 Park Pince, NEW YORK.
ap13-tf

DARLING'S
FINE
BONE AND ANIMAL
FERTILIZER.
Prof. Goessmann, in the Mass. Agricultural Report, gives the chemical value of Darling's Animal Fertilizer at $55.40 per ton. The retail price in Boston or Providence is $40.00.

THE ANIMAL FERTILIZER
is applicable to any crop, and is made from fine bone partly dissolved, Dried Blood, Meat and Potash. We have any number of favorable reports the past season, some of over 100 bushels shelled corn to the acre from 800 pounds Fertilizer.

DARLING'S
Lawn Dresser
HAS NO EQUAL.
OUR STEAMED GROUND BONE
has always been the standard, and is sold at $40.00 per ton.
BONE MEAL for Feeding Cattle, CRACKED BONE, WHEAT, BLOOD and BEEF SCRAPS, for feeding Hens and Hogs.
Samples of any of the above sent free, by addressing the manufacturers.
Send to us for Prof. Goessmann's Report on Fertilizers.
L. B. DARLING & CO.,
PAWTUCKET, R. I.
Agents—PARKER & GANNETT, WHITTEMORE BROS, JOSEPH BRECK & SONS, HOVEY & CO., Boston, Mass.
mh23-tf

UPTON'S
SUPERPHOSPHATE,
3 to 4 per cent. Ammonia,
10 to 12 per cent. Sol. Phos. Acid,
3 to 5 per cent. Insol. " "
Made from fresh steamed bones, dissolved with Sulphuric Acid.
Price $35 per Ton.
Free on board of Cars in Boston.
TERMS CASH.
GEO. UPTON,
18 Broad Street, Boston.
ap6-12t

SOLUBLE
Pacific Guano.
The superior excellence of this Guano has been so successfully demonstrated during the past eleven years in the Middle and Southern States, on cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, and garden vegetables,—the Company's sales having exceeded the enormous aggregate of 25,000 *tons in a single season*,—that it is now offered for sale in New England with entire confidence as to its merits. No fertilizer ever introduced in the South has undergone so severe a test or come out of them with its character as a first-class, reliable fertilizer more thoroughly established. In consequence of the satisfactory results of these very complete tests this Guano has acquired a reputation equal to that formerly enjoyed by Peruvian Guano. It is rich in **Bone Phosphate of Lime**, finely ground (a large proportion of which is immediately soluble), **Ammonia**, and **Potash**, besides other ingredients valuable as plant food, manufactured at the Company's works, Woods Hole, Mass., and Charleston, S. C., under the supervision of competent chemists.
Price, $45 per ton in bags, containing 200 pounds, free on board at Boston or Hartford.
PACIFIC GUANO CO., BOSTON.
And E. N. PHELPS, WINDSOR, CT.
mh9-17t

J. B. ROOT,
Manufacturer of and Dealer in
CRUSHED BONE,
Ground Bone, Super-Phosphate for Fertilizing Purposes.
Also, BONE MEAL FOR CATTLE, warranted equal to any that can be found elsewhere.
NORTHBORO BONE MILL.
feb23-13t Northboro, Mass.

MANUFACTURERS OF
EUREKA POULTRY FOOD,
AND DEALERS IN
BEEF & PORK SCRAPS, CRUSHED BONE AND BONE MEAL,
And all kinds of POULTRY SUPPLIES,
Wholesale Agents for IMPERIAL EGG FOOD.
H. B. Arnold & Co., 59 Blackstone St., Boston.
Send for Circular and Price List.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE
NITROGENOUS PHOSPHATE
—AND—
PURE GROUND BONE.
feb23-13t

CHEMICAL SPECIAL
FERTILIZERS.
THE best in the world. Book of Testimonials sent free. C. W. GUY, 33 Bedford St., Boston.
mh16-tf

Wanted,
A JERSEY BULL, from two to four years old, of good milking stock. Address O. H. LODGE, 1422 Washington Street, stating age, color, and especially price.
Boston, April 3, 1878. ap6-t

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Norfolk ss. Probate Court.
To the Heirs-at-Law, Next-of-Kin, and all other persons interested in the estate of CLIFFORD KEITH, late of Stoughton, in said County, deceased,
Greeting:
WHEREAS, a certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by CHRISTHUSA KEITH, who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to her, the executrix therein named.
You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be holden at Quincy, in said County of Norfolk, on the second Wednesday of May next, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, against the same.
And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this Citation once a week, for three successive weeks, in the newspaper called the Massachusetts Ploughman, printed at Boston, the last publication to be two days, at least, before said Court.
Witness, GEO. WHITE, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this tenth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight.
ap20-3t* JONATHAN COBB, Asst. Register.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To the Heirs-at-Law, next of Kin, and all other Persons interested in the Estate of MARTHA W. STOWE, late of Concord, in said County, deceased,
Greeting:
WHEREAS, a certain instrument purporting to be the last Will and Testament of said deceased, has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by CHARLES THOMPSON, who prays that letters testamentary may be issued to him, the Executor therein named.
You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the first Tuesday of May next, at nine o'clock before noon, to show cause, if any you have, against the same.
And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once a week, for three successive weeks, in the newspaper called the Massachusetts Ploughman, printed at Boston, the last publication to be two days, at least, before said Court.
Witness, GEORGE M. BROOKS, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight. J. H. TYLER, Register.
ap13-3t*

Farm Implements

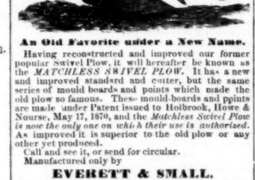
New Champion Mower.
READERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN, rejoice with me that the celebrated Haymaker Mower appears for 1878 a perfect thing, by reason of its New Mechanical Movement; in the hands of the well known Champion Mower Co. Their usual 30, 00 a year is now swollen to 38,000 for 1878, as 8000 Haymaker Champions are now going forward to follow the lead of 700 last year, to successfully placed that I know of but two that have broken, and those only at a cost of $3. I hardly need say more than that you can't afford to listen to any talk against this machine, (*no true word of fault can be said,*) or close an order at any price for any other until you avail yourselves of our willing off-r, that you take one home and try it until satisfied that we mean what we say, when we claim it to be not only the best, but so plainly so, that you lose in the end, even if apparently you save 25 per cent. in price on the start, with any other. With the fullest conviction that this fact will become potent as well as patent by this y-ar's practical demonstrations, I invite all to call and examine for themselves and see our points, (and they average one to each ten miles, and trust them to discriminate convictions, rather than the small talk of the opposition.
THE NEW
Tiger Centre-Dump Rake.
In offering you this rake I would say that I have found at last, a rake so simple that it can't fail to perform what it is claimed it will do. Dumping from the centre, it would do side jobs of raking where either wheel may (and often does) do the whole work, and the winding of the hay at the hubs; any boy or girl that can drive the horse can rake the hay. The Tiger is not known east of the Connecticut River, but is established west, and where at work is the standard Rake; 10,000 are being built; join me in the same freedom to try it as the Mower, and find it with the same agents. Remember the
LEVEL TREAD
Horse Power and Thresher
As another *new* departure, and so completely superior as to control almost the entire trade where it is known. You, too, would buy it if you would see it at work.
Call at our depot centres and examine. Boston, with Ames Plow Co., Agents; Portland, with N. M. Perkins & Co., Agents; Bangor, with Bartlett & Smith, Agents. Circulars mailed on application.
For New York, Western New Hampshire, and Western Massachusetts, address WHITELY, FASLER & KELLY, Eastern Branch Champion Mower Works, Schenectady, New York, as in business connected with Mower. GEO B. WEAVER.
ap13-tf General Eastern Agent, Newport, R. I.

CENTENNIAL SWIVEL PLOWS.

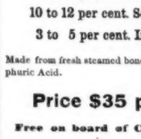
TRIUMPHANT EVERYWHERE!
Accepted by the New England and Maine State Agricultural Societies. Superior to any for Level Land and Hill-side.

AMES PLOW COMPANY,
Sole Makers.
Awarded all the First Prizes. Four out of Five Second Prizes, in all Eleven Prizes out of Fifteen offered at the Great Field Trial held at Pleasumpscot Park, Portland, Me., Thursday, Sept. 6, 1877, in competition with the Leading Plows of the Eastern States.
The design of the plowing, as announced by the Societies, was "to show the merits of competing plows." The result settles the question as to which is best. "Centennial" are now offered to the farmers of New England, warranted sound and perfect, guaranteed satisfactory in operation, and to work as represented.
QUINCY HALL, BOSTON, MASS.
Liberal discount to dealers and agents. Send for circular.

EVERETT & SMALL'S
NEW
MATCHLESS
SWIVEL PLOW



An Old Favorite under a New Name.
Having reconstructed and improved our former popular Swivel Plow, it will hereafter be known as the *MATCHLESS SWIVEL PLOW.* It has a new and improved standard for center, but the same series of mould boards and points which made the old plow so famous. These mould-boards and points are made under Patent issued to Hancock, Howe & Nourse, May 17, 1870, and the *Matchless Swivel Plow is now the only one on sale which their use is authorized.* As improved it is superior to the old plow or any other yet produced.
Call and see it, or send for circular.
Manufactured only by
EVERETT & SMALL,
43 South Market St, Boston.
mh9-16 23-ap6-20-27



$7 Best in use. Sold Wholesale and Retail by
E. E. LUMMUS & CO.,
Boston, Mass.
$7 Circulars Free.
feb25-tf *PRICES REDUCED FOR 1878.*

MATTHEWS'
PATENT SWIVEL PLOW,

FOR LEVEL LAND and HILL SIDE
HAS no superior; is adapted to either sod or stubble plowing, and is working with unequalled success. Manufactured only by
A. H. MATTHEWS,
COLDBROOK SPRINGS, MASS.
Liberal discount to Dealers and Agents.
mh2-13t

NEW AND IMPORTANT
IMPROVEMENT IN
Railway Horse Powers
WITH
OLDS' PATENT LINK.
One, Two and Three Horse.
WHAT OUR MACHINES WILL DO.
With one Two-Horse Power, and Thresher with Iron Cylinder, 300 to 400 Bushels of Oats, or 200 to 250 Bushels of Wheat can be Threshed and Cleaned in one day. Our DRAG SAW will cut 50 cords in ten hours Rock Maple Wood, and our CIRCULAR SAWS 125 Cords of the same kind of Wood in a Day.
We are awarded at the New England Agricultural Fair, Sept. 3 to 7, at Portland, Maine, FIRST PREMIUM and SILVER MEDAL, over three competitors.
MANUFACTURED BY
THE ST. ALBANS FOUNDRY CO.
ST. ALBANS, VERMONT.
sep15-tf

The Ross System of Cultivation.
SEND 25 CTS. FOR THE SAME TO ROSS & CO., Northfield, Mass. Mention the paper you see this in. feb23-12t

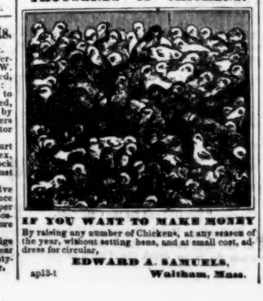
Farms for Sale.

Farms and Residences for Sale,
IN CONCORD, MASS.
Persons in pursuit of a farm or residence will do well to visit this old town, which also is possessed of good railroad accommodations, one of the best free Public Libraries in the State, excellent schools, good roads, low rate of taxes, and an abundant supply of pure Water. Farms pleasantly located, and in good state of cultivation. Letters answered promptly.
L. FLINT & CO., Auctioneers,
Monument St., Concord, Mass.
Applicants waited upon free. Prices from $2,000 to $7,500; terms to suit the times. mh16-13t*

Farms! Farms!
I have the largest and best variety of Farms for sale now offered in this market. Can give you a home in any part of New England at a bargain. For full and reliable description of property given by sending stamp for GRAY'S REAL ESTATE JOURNAL. All letters promptly answered.
JAMES GRAY,
No. 1 Pemberton Square, (Room 5,)
nov19-tf Boston.

For Sale,
A valuable Dairy Farm, of about 300 acres, located 11 miles from West Boston, Mass. Keeping 27 cows and selling $400 worth of milk, at wholesale, is now sold monthly. Will be sold cheap, as owner is engaged in other business. For particulars, address
WM. LINCOLN & CO.,
Jan26-tf Warren, Mass.

THOUSANDS OF CHICKENS.



IF YOU WANT TO MAKE MONEY
By raising any number of Chickens, at any season of the year, without setting hens, and at small cost, address for circular,
EDWARD A. SAMUELS,
ap13-t Waltham, Mass.

Stallions.

"HERALD,"
FORMERLY
"GRAPHIC,"
Sired by Smuggler, record 2.15½, will make the season of 1878, commencing March 15, and ending August 1, at
HIGHLAWN STOCK FARM,
Situated at FOXBORO', Norfolk Co., Mass.
TERMS, $100.

"ZACK ALLEN,"
Son of Ethan Allen, (and sire of Dan Rocket, etc.,) will make the season at the same place, from March 1 to September 1.
TERMS, $25.
Fees payable at time of service. Mares not proving in foal by either of the above horses, can be returned the next season free of charge for service.
Ample facilities for BOARDING or PASTURING mares from a distance. Beyond careful attention no responsibility is assumed. For full description, pedigree, &c., address WM. T. COOK,
mh16-tf Foxboro, Mass.

"MAJOR MORRILL,"
The above-named Stallion foaled in 1874, will make the season of 1878, for a limited number of mares, at the CALVIN RICHARDS FARM,
STRAWBERRY HILL,
IN DOVER, MASS.
His color is light chestnut, is 16¼ hands high, weighs 1100 pounds, sired by Kimball Morrill, grandsire Young Morrill sire of Fearnaught, dam Black Hawk mare. He is very gentle, good style gait and action, being that of a natural trotter, and a sure foal getter.
TERM $25 FOR THE SEASON
ending Nov. 1st. $15.00 payable at first service; $10 when the mare proves with foal. Mares not proving in foal can be returned the next season without extra charge for service.
For further particulars please call at the farm, or address JEREMIAH ALLEN,
Charles River Village, Mass.

Seeds, &c.

FARM AND GARDEN
SEEDS.
WE INVITE THE ATTENTION of Farmers, Gardeners, Florists, and all others who require Seed to our
Fresh and Select Stock
of all the best kinds of the very Earliest, Medium and Late Peas, Beans, Corn, and all other varieties of Vegetable Seeds for Market or House use; also an unrivalled collection of
FLOWER SEEDS,
including the finest strains of Asters, Balsams, Stocks, Pansies, Petunias, Verbenas, Double Zinnias, choice Florists' Flowers, Novelties, and other popular and favorite varieties too numerous to mention. Our new Catalogue free on application.
HOVEY & CO.,
ap20-2t 16 South Market St., Boston.

PURE SEED.
The most Reliable SEEDS OF ALL KINDS, FOR SALE AT Wholesale & Retail, by WHITTEMORE BROS. 128 & 130 So. Market St.
ap20-2t

Prickly Comfrey.
EVERY reader who keeps Cows, Poultry, Pigs, or Pets, will find it for his interest to learn all he can about this remarkable forage-plant, which produces on rich soil 50 tons the first year and 100 tons or more subsequently. Those who tried it last year find it as represented, and all should give it a careful trial this year. Send for circulars. Cuttings $4 00 per hundred, mailed free.
GEORGE H. RICE,
P. O. Box 122. Worcester, Mass.
ap13-1t*

Strawberry and Raspberry
PLANTS FOR SALE.
ALL the leading varieties of Strawberries, including Cant. Jack, the most promising of new sorts. The Brandywine Raspberry has stood the past winter without covering—the best market berry. Other varieties for sale; also Rhubarb and Asparagus roots.
Nourse, May 17, 1876, and the *Matchless Swivel Plow is now the only one on sale which their use is authorized.* As improved it is superior to the old plow or any other yet produced.
Call and see it, or send for circular.
Manufactured only by
EVERETT & SMALL,
43 South Market St, Boston.
mh9-16 23-ap6-20-27

Burbank Seedling.
A NEW and excellent quality Potato. A great cropper; at one dollar per bushel.
T. C. FLETCHER,
ap20-3t* West Acton, Mass.

MOORE'S
NEW PRIZE SEEDLING GRAPES
AND STRAWBERRIES; also small fruits and Asparagus. Send for circular to
JOHN B. MOORE,
mh2-13t Concord, Mass.

SEEDS GIVEN AWAY.
SEVEN CHOICE VARIETIES of Flower Seeds, including Aster, Balsams, Phlox, Pansy and Vis Carnia, for 25c. Sample package and Cat. alogue of Seeds for 3c. stamp. New York Seed Co., Buffalo, N. Y. mh16-cow4t

STRAWBERRY PLANTS
GREAT PROLIFIC, Seneca Queen, Great American and 50 other choice varieties, at HALF-PRICE in fine order. Also 25 varieties of RASPBERRIES, new, and profitable kinds; new BLACKBERRIES, GRAPES, FRUIT TREES, &c. Low prices and moderate prices. BERRY BASKETS and CRATES. Price Lists free.
R. H. HAINES,
ap6-4t Saugerties-on-Hudson, N. Y.

TREES, PLANTS.
WITH an immense stock of unsurpassed quality, we can afford the very lowest prices, decidedly lower than can be quoted by travelling agents. All the new kinds of Straw berries, Grapes, Pears, Maples, Evergreens, Roses, and also the standard varieties in Fruit and Flowering Trees, Shrubs, Hedges and Bedding Plants, in any quantity desired. Special rates for large orders. See Catalogue.
W. C. STRONG, Nonantum Hill, *BRIGHTON, MASS.*
feb23-10t

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.
15 ACRES devoted to Strawberries; over 30 varieties in the New England States. 18 new kinds added to my list this season. Catalogue and Price List sent free. CHAS. S. PRATT, North Reading, Mass.
feb9,23-mh9,23-4ap6-9t

GRAPE VINES.
Also Trees, Small Fruits, etc. Wholesale rates very low to Nurserymen, Dealers, and large Planters. Send stamp for Descriptive List. Price List FREE.
T. S. HUBBARD, Fredonia, N. Y.
sep1 cow20t*

BERRY BASKETS and CRATES
Our Improved Crate is the best ventilated, lightest and most compact ever used. Our Illustrated Price List is now ready to mail to all growers. Circulars for market. Price low. Orders filled promptly. DISBROW MF'G Co., Rochester, N. Y.
ap20-4t

Eggs for Hatching,
FROM *THE POULTRY YARDS OF GEO. S. WHEELER, New Ipswich, N. H.*, at the following prices for a setting of 13: Bronze Turkeys, $6.00; Pekin Ducks, $2.00; Plymouth Rocks and Black Leghorns, $2.00; Light Brahmas, White and Brown Leghorns, $1.50. Have shown the above kinds at several leading exhibitions this and the past season, and won 1st and 2d premiums on them. All Eggs warranted new laid, and to reach the purchaser in good condition. Address all orders to
GEO. S. WHEELER,
mh16-14t New Ipswich, N. H.

PURE SALT,
For Dairy and Table Use.
THE indifference of Butter and Cheese makers to the quality of the salt used by them, is a strange contrast with their readiness to adopt every other means which will improve the quality of their products. It is quite generally stated by storekeepers, that one brand of Salt sells as well as another, and therefore they get that which they can sell cheapest.
The saving in cost on the quantity of Salt used in a pound of butter, is but a fraction of a mill between the poorest and the best.
There is much Salt used that not only fails to preserve the butter salted with it, but is actually injurious, destroying the natural flavor of the butter and cheese, and imparting a bitter taste. On this latter account, all food seasoned with PURE Salt will be better relished.
If you would know the difference between common Salt and a pure salt, pack part of the butter which you intend to keep some months, with the salt you have been using, and part with
WARNER & FREEMAN'S
Double Refined Dairy and Table Salt,
which, after many years of experimenting, and a large outlay of money, we have succeeded in making as nearly perfect as salt can be.
We will warrant this Salt to be whiter, purer, cleaner and better, in every respect, than any other Dairy and Table Salt used in this country. Butter and cheese salted with it will keep better and have a much sweeter flavor, than when the ordinary qualities of Salt are used.
Being thoroughly dried it will not become hard. Ask your Grocers for it. Put up in small and large packages.
WARNER & FREEMAN,
Importers and Dealers in
Salt of All Kinds,
And Manufacturers of
Double Refined Dairy and Table Salt.
FERTILIZER SALT—Dry and Fine—refuse of our Refinery—for sale at low prices.
No. 214 State, and 57 Commerce Streets,
mh9 BOSTON. cow-13t

feb23-cow2t

Stallions.

"HERALD,"
FORMERLY
"GRAPHIC,"
Sired by Smuggler, record 2.15½, will

The Poet's Corner.

MAY-FLOWER.

Was it not you, beloved, who sang to me at midnight?
I heard a voice in dream-land at midnight
sweet and low,
As if the Spring's warm mouth was bent close
over icy coldness,
And her glad song was breathing o'er wastes
of trackless snow.
Oh! sweet was its soft pleading, oh! loving was
its boldness!—
The snow shone ice-incrusted, its gleaming I
could see;
Cold was the winter's splendor, fine was its flashing moonlight,
But finer, braver, dearer, the Spring song
breathed to me.

I.

I follow thee, I follow
O'er every hill and hollow,
I look for thee, I follow,
Thou hidden, sacred sweet!
I follow, and shall find thee!
Nor ice nor snow can blind me!
Beneath them I shall find thee
Blooming in thy retreat!

II

Ah! May-flower mine, my maiden,
I'll find thee, blossom-laden,
Coy, rose-flushed, snow-hid maiden,
All purely waiting me!
I follow thee, I follow
Thy steps through every hollow,
Beneath the snow I follow,
But surely finding thee!

Ah! was't you, beloved, sang to me
This song at midnight! And this breath—ah!
see!—
Has melted snow, my bloom unveiled to thee!
—HENRIETTA HARDY, in *Harper's Magazine for May.*

Ladies' Department.

AN IMPOSSIBLE STORY.

Supper was just over, and the hour began which was to Mr. Nelson the pleasantest of the day. A fire burned upon the hearth, for it was late October; but the air remained so mild that the front window was left open, and as he sat in his arm-chair he could hear the soft, contented whistle and see the dusky figure of his oldest son, Robert, as the latter moved about the little front lawn and garden, to make sure that all things were in order. At the end of the room, his daughter Phœbe, in her simple cashmere dress, with zone about the waist, and full, falling folds, which revealed the outline of her form, resembled some figure from a Grecian frieze, as she lighted the lamp. The mother, in her rocking-chair, with hands idly folded in her lap, was a refreshing picture of rest.

Robert, a tall, manly boy of eighteen, showing equal grace and awkwardness in every limb and movement, entered as the lamp was lighted and the window closed.

"Father," he said, throwing himself with accustomed sprawl upon the sofa, "the House is organized, and ready for the message."

"Oh, please, wait for Tom and Gerald!" cried Phœbe.

"I have no adventures to-day," said Mr. Nelson,—"not even a new variety of customer. But I came home by way of Newark, and I can think of nothing this evening but the square islands of garden-land, and the streets of canals between the Hackensack and Passaic rivers. They reminded me of a picture of Chinese cultivation which I found in some old book of travels. As far as I could see, even to the north of Snake Hill, the old marshes have disappeared."

"I suppose few gardeners live upon them yet?" surmised Phœbe.

"I met with one on the train who has lived there a year. He is sure that all the islands will be inhabited in another year. When the canals were first cut, and the earth was used to raise the squares of garden-land above the old level, it was a disagreeable atmosphere, in spite of the chemical agents used. But now you should see the hedges of sassafras, spice-wood and barberry which spring up behind the piles and fringe the canals! They are not so potent to destroy malaria as the eucalyptus, but they prove to be a very fair substitute. This summer, all the refuse of the city has been bought by the company and they now offer New York a million dollars a year for the privilege of keeping her streets clean."

"Did you see the Calkins Castle?" asked Robert.

"Yes—and even through a borrowed opera-glass. You will never know Snake Hill when the work is finished; there are noble terraces and masonry, extending across the entire front of the bluff, with the house rising above the uppermost; the great water-tank is on the summit, and begins to look like an old Norman stronghold. I don't believe that the whole design can be carried out for less than ten millions."

"Ah!" exclaimed Mrs. Nelson, starting up from her comfortable attitude,—"and so much might have been done with all that money!"

"Yes," her husband answered, "but on the other hand, Calkins might have done nothing at all. You know he is quite uneducated, outside of his business; he has made fifty millions, his only heirs are one daughter and three nephews; and he probably would never have parted with a dollar for the public good, if Wragg, his great rival in wealth, had not spent his millions in making our Gallery of Art one of the finest in the world. Why, I am told that several thousands of persons come annually from Europe, just to see its Titians and Correggios! But think what the city will gain when, by way of the bridge over the Hudson, thousands of people can be placed on these terraces in fifteen minutes! In winter the glass roofs will be a hundred feet above the soil, and in summer the groves of semi-tropical and tropical trees will stand in the open air. The topmost terrace, I hear, will be planted with ilex, myrtle, cypress and Italian pine; the palms will be lowest of all."

"Glorious!" cried Phœbe, clasping her hands with delight; but just then the door of the kitchen opened, and in came Tom and Gerald, the younger boys, with flushed faces and sparkling eyes.

"Clara wouldn't let me mix the batter for the buckwheat cakes," said the latter, "and I'm sure I can do it."

"The pots and kettles fell to me," Tom added; "I don't like to be scullion so often. I begin to consider the appearance of my hands, like Phœbe there."

Phœbe involuntarily lifted and looked at her own. They were very shapely and firm, yet without the pallor and emaciation which are held to be aristocratic.

"Nevertheless, Tom," she said, "I do my share of the house-work, and I am not paid for it."

"You will get back your wages when you have your own housekeeping to manage," her father playfully remarked.

The door-bell rang. Gerald sprang up, crying to Tom: "My turn!" dashed into the hall, and presently, throwing open the door, announced in a loud, formal voice: "Mr. Sydney Dudley!"

Mr. Dudley was a small man, with a weak blonde mustache and a frightened air. He was exquisitely dressed, and carried a small stick, with which, when embarrassed, he was in the habit of tapping his patent-leather boots. He saluted the members of the family with much grace and politeness, stood for a moment awkwardly looking around the room, and then took the offered chair.

"I hope this is not a farewell," said Mrs. Nelson.

"Yes—no—that is, I shall stay awhile longer."

"Then you like your quarters at the hotel?"

"Oh, very much,—that is, it's rather lonely; it puts me in mind of what you were saying the other day, Miss Phœbe,—something about a 'populous solitude.'"

Mrs. Nelson looked from the visitor to her daughter, and a faint, half-repressed sign of interest began to steal over her tranquil countenance.

"Yes, that's what it is," continued Mr. Dudley, "a populous solitude,—for me, that is. I walk, and read, and ride and talk with this one and that one, but it all doesn't seem to fill out the time."

"Try helping in the kitchen," said Tom, with such a grimace that no one could help laughing.

"I've sometimes thought I should like it, Mrs. Nelson. There's such a comfort when the dishes are well cooked; and when you understand something about it yourself, you can give directions, you know."

"You ought to take lessons of our Clara," said Phœbe. "Here she is, just in time! Clara, couldn't you take Mr. Dudley into the kitchen, as a student, say for three hours a week?"

Mr. Dudley rose and bowed. Clara blushed deeply, and tried to cover her confusion under a little forced laugh, as she took her seat near the lamp, with a piece of sewing in her hand. She was a large plump, rather pretty girl of twenty-two, whose air of high health was the best testimony to her culinary skill.

"No, no!" exclaimed Mrs. Nelson, before her guest had time to reply to Phœbe's proposition. "Gerald must graduate before Clara can take another pupil. Why not try gardening first, Mr. Dudley? That is more a man's work."

"I'd like it amazingly—that is, if Mr. Nelson or Robert would let me begin with them. Otherwise, I might destroy things before I learn what they are. But I've nearly forgotten what I particularly came to tell you. I know how much interest you all take in literary matters, and great writers and speakers. They've just arranged in New York for Emerson to come on next week, and give a lecture on—what is it?—Eternal Forces, or powers, or something of that sort, in the great hall."

"We must go!" cried Phœbe.

"Oh, I should admire to hear him," echoed Clara.

"Of course, everybody must go!" said Mr. Dudley. "There will be extra trains from here and Newark. The hall will seat five thousand."

"Not half as many as will try to get in," remarked Mr. Nelson.

"Then I'll run up to-morrow, and get tickets,—that is, if you'll allow me. And I'll buy one of his books, all the news-boys on the train have 'em,—the cheap edition, you know. They say two hundred thousand copies have been sold in six months."

"It is astonishing," Mr. Nelson continued, "how little the best American authors used to be read. If the sale of Hawthorne's works had been one-tenth of what it is now, during his life, he would have died a rich man. Ever since we have had an international copyright law, and professorships of American history and literature in all our universities and colleges, the taste and intelligence of the people have developed wonderfully."

"Father," asked Tom, "what are those papers in tight envelopes, which the boys on the train sometimes take out of their breast-pockets and sell? The people who buy them never open and read them in the cars."

Mr. Dudley looked around him with a frightened manner, and grew red in the face, although nobody was noticing him particularly.

"They are papers," Mr. Nelson answered, "which our liberal laws in regard to the Press cannot prevent being published, yet which are so condemned by public opinion that they can only be disposed of in this secret way. They are devoted to crimes, brutal fights and shameful trials, with pictures so repulsive as the text. It is no wonder that those who buy them are unwilling to let it be known."

"Yes, father," said Robert, you allowed me once to look at a copy, because I was so curious; but I have never wanted to see another."

Phœbe, who had picked up the evening paper, suddenly said:

"They are going to act the 'Antigone' of Sophocles! And we are to have several of Gluck's operas this season; how shall we manage to see and hear so many good things?"

"You will have to go alone occasionally," her father answered. "The proprietors of the theatre have at last made a separate entrance for unaccompanied ladies, with the most charming little refreshment room attached."

He looked at his watch, and said: "Ten o'clock." Mr. Dudley rose instantly, shook hands all around, and put on his hat. (He remembered the act when half way to his hotel, and shuddered at the blunder). "Delighted,—hope to meet again," he stammered; "that is, we shall all go to the lecture. And about the gardening, if—if—"

"Come and try," said Robert, heartily, as he accompanied him to the door.

Mr. Nelson was a member of a manufacturing firm in New York. But it was only half an hour, by the Elevated Railroad and the lofty Hudson Bridge, from his place of business in the city to his home on the outskirts of a large New Jersey village. Encouraging by the new process, gave the structure almost the appearance of an open pavilion. Mr. Nelson, pausing to look at the work, suddenly said:

"Come with us, John! It is a family consultation, but you have a little share in it. If I could not confide in you entirely I should not ask you."

John Lloyd put on his coat, and followed. When they were all seated and expectant, Mr. Nelson began:

"The whole district has declared its preference for me, so that the action of the Convention is already determined. I had one means of escape left, but that is taken away from me to-day. You know the principle upon which our Company is organized. Whenever the annual profits exceed eight per cent. on the capital invested, and a small additional percentage for contingent expenses, we reduce the price of the articles we manufacture. This policy has so increased our business that we are obliged to extend the production; for the profits, this year, are twelve per cent. I supposed that my services might be needed to superintend the building of the new manufactories, which are to be located here. A loud ring at the door-bell followed, and three prominent citizens of the town were ushered into the room.

They came to announce that Mr. Nelson had received a large majority of the votes cast, and telegrams from other parts of the district made it certain that his nomination for Congress by the convention would follow as a natural result. The members of the family expressed as much consternation as surprise; they were utterly unprepared for such news.

"What does it mean?" Mr. Nelson asked. "I never knew, until now, that any one had ever thought of me for the place. What is the cause of the preference in my favor?"

"You are a well-known citizen," said the spokesman. "The people know your honesty, and believe in your capacity; and then,—well, since we made up our minds to have a man who had never tried to get the nomination, why, we hadn't much range of choice, you know."

His shy laugh, as he said these words, was infectious. Robert clapped his hands and cried:

"That's it, father! I don't see how you can get out of it."

"At any rate, my friends," said Mr. Nelson, rising and speaking earnestly, "your preference is an honor which I gratefully accept. There is still a week until the Convention, and if the whole district speaks as you do, I shall decide positively whether or not I can serve you, before the nomination is made. You may be sure I shall not evade the duty now imposed upon me."

"Sparta hath many a worthier son than he!" shouted Tom, who was just dipping into literature.

There was hearty laughter at this; and after a little further consultation, the committee of three took their leave, while the drums and trumpets sounded a lively march. Mr. Nelson settled himself deeper in his arm-chair and sighed; there were tears in his wife's eyes; the duets of Phœbe and Robert were not resumed; a very palpable shadow had fallen on the household.

Two more days passed. The subject was not mentioned again in the family, for the father kept silence, and they knew that when he had pondered the question wisely and well he would freely take them into his confidence. The work went on as usual, but there was now little more to do in the garden; only Tom and Gerald were not quite so patient in helping Clara in the kitchen, and more hurried and anxious in answering the door-bell.

On the third afternoon, however, after a rapid oversight of the lawn and garden, Mr. Nelson called his children into the house. John Lloyd was just finishing the roof of the conservatory; the large sheets of firm, tough striking paper, by the new process, gave the structure almost the appearance of an open pavilion. Mr. Nelson, pausing to look at the work, suddenly said:

"Come with us, John! It is a family consultation, but you have a little share in it. If I could not confide in you entirely I should not ask you."

John Lloyd put on his coat, and followed. When they were all seated and expectant, Mr. Nelson began:

"The whole district has declared its preference for me, so that the action of the Convention is already determined. I had one means of escape left, but that is taken away from me to-day. You know the principle upon which our Company is organized. Whenever the annual profits exceed eight per cent. on the capital invested, and a small additional percentage for contingent expenses, we reduce the price of the articles we manufacture. This policy has so increased our business that we are obliged to extend the production; for the profits, this year, are twelve per cent. I supposed that my services might be needed to superintend the building of the new manufactories, which are to be located here. A loud ring at the door-bell followed, and three prominent citizens of the town were ushered into the room.

They came to announce that Mr. Nelson had received a large majority of the votes cast, and telegrams from other parts of the district made it certain that his nomination for Congress by the convention would follow as a natural result. The members of the family expressed as much consternation as surprise; they were utterly unprepared for such news.

"What does it mean?" Mr. Nelson asked. "I never knew, until now, that any one had ever thought of me for the place. What is the cause of the preference in my favor?"

"You are a well-known citizen," said the spokesman. "The people know your honesty, and believe in your capacity; and then,—well, since we made up our minds to have a man who had never tried to get the nomination, why, we hadn't much range of choice, you know."

His shy laugh, as he said these words, was infectious. Robert clapped his hands and cried:

"That's it, father! I don't see how you can get out of it."

"At any rate, my friends," said Mr. Nelson, rising and speaking earnestly, "your preference is an honor which I gratefully accept. There is still a week until the Convention, and if the whole district speaks as you do, I shall decide positively whether or not I can serve you, before the nomination is made. You may be sure I shall not evade the duty now imposed upon me."

"Sparta hath many a worthier son than he!" shouted Tom, who was just dipping into literature.

There was hearty laughter at this; and after a little further consultation, the committee of three took their leave, while the drums and trumpets sounded a lively march. Mr. Nelson settled himself deeper in his arm-chair and sighed; there were tears in his wife's eyes; the duets of Phœbe and Robert were not resumed; a very palpable shadow had fallen on the household.

He looked at his watch, and said: "Ten o'clock." Mr. Dudley rose instantly, shook hands all around, and put on his hat. (He remembered the act when half way to his hotel, and shuddered at the blunder). "Delighted,—hope to meet again," he stammered; "that is, we shall all go to the lecture. And about the gardening, if—if—"

"Come and try," said Robert, heartily, as he accompanied him to the door.

Mr. Nelson was a member of a manufacturing firm in New York. But it was only half an hour, by the Elevated Railroad and the lofty Hudson Bridge, from his place of business in the city to his home on the outskirts of a large New Jersey village. Encouraging